

otakuasia

A S I A

OUR FIRST FOOD ISSUE!!

OA FOOD CRAWL GUIDE

JAPANESE RESTAURANTS YOU WISH
WERE HERE IN PH

SHOKUGEKI NO SOMA

POSTER INSIDE
Shokugeki no Soma and
Houseki no Kuni

FOOD ISSUE | FOOD ISSUE | FOOD ISSUE | FOOD ISSUE | FOOD ISSUE | FOOD ISSUE | FOOD ISSUE | FOOD ISSUE

44

ISSN: 2244-6524

PSICOM
psicompublishing.com

LIFESTYLE: COSPLAY MANIA 2017 | PRIMER MAGAZINE | FINAL FANTASY 30TH ANNIVERSARY PH PHOTOSHOOT | KONTRABIDA BALL | HIROSHI KAMIYA | FREEDOM OF ART | HOW TO EAT JAPANESE DISHES | 12/10 IZAKAYA
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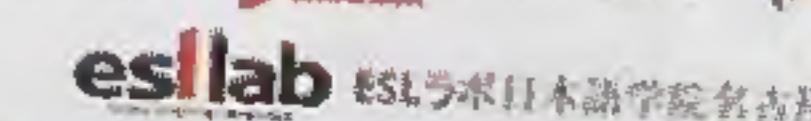
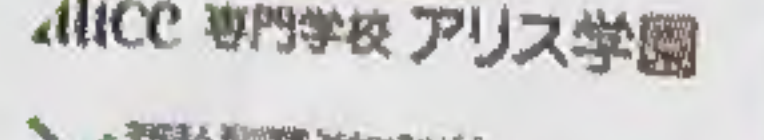
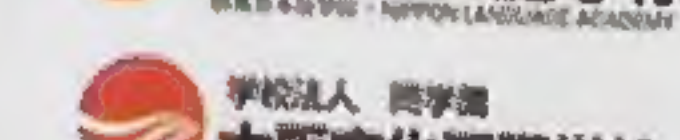
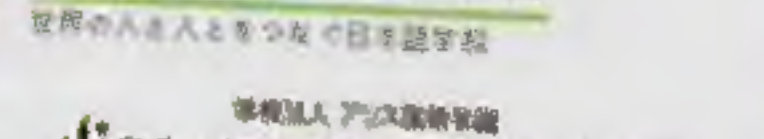
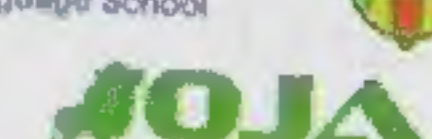
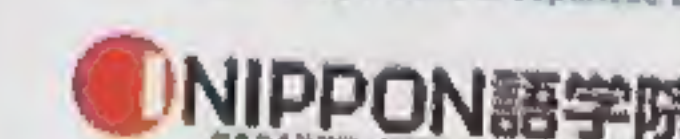
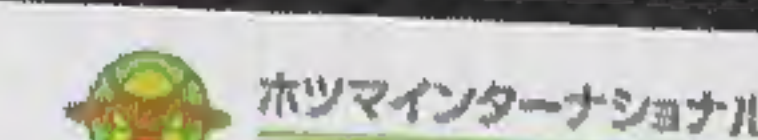
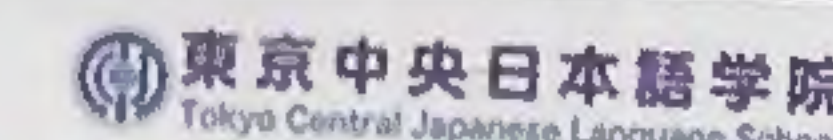
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SHOKUGEKI NO SOMA

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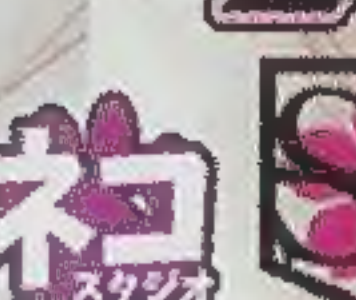
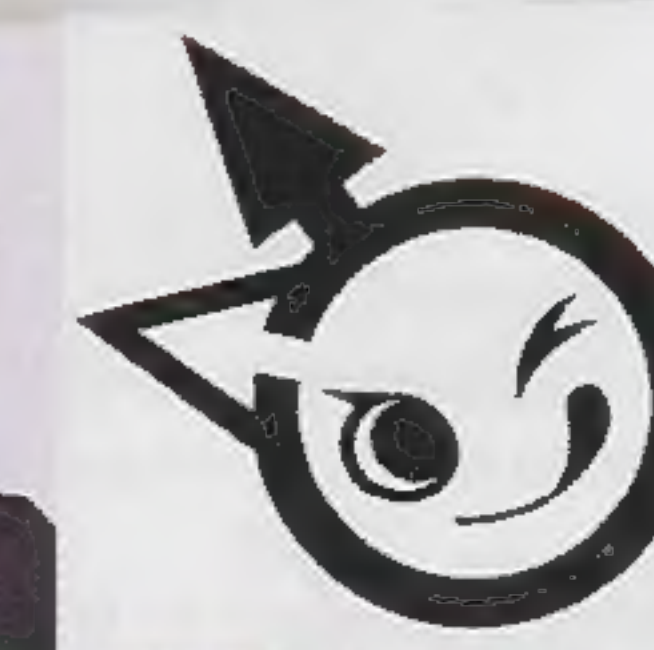
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IKEMEN CAFE

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R-18+





Why did we not think of this before? OA's FOOD ISSUE is finally here! The team has been eating everywhere for the small section, Bento Box but never had a whole issue for food reviews, recommendations and finds. Well, its here now: OA's FOOD ISSUE.

We also have a series of manga creations by the attendees of the Manga Hokusai Manga Workshop headed by Tintin Pantoja. The students were made to create a manga of the classic Jack and Jill story and boy did we see some good ones so they are now here for everyone to see!

The Food Issue will not be complete without the new season of Shokugeki no Soma. Plus, as always, we have only the most recommended anime and manga for you Otafans~

This month's O-kun Tales is also about food! Since I recently bought a Takoyaki machine (all hail Japan surplus shops) some team members got to enjoy with me!

Without further ado, let us enjoy this yummy yummy issue together! Follow us at Facebook (@otakuasiamagazine) and Instagram (@otakuasia)

-GM Kaddy

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OTAKU ASIA is a monthly magazine by PSICOM Publishing Inc., #6 Yale st. Cubao Quezon City. Issues are available on all major bookstores nationwide. Back issues are available online through otakuasia.com or psicom.ocnk.biz. Printed in the Philippines.

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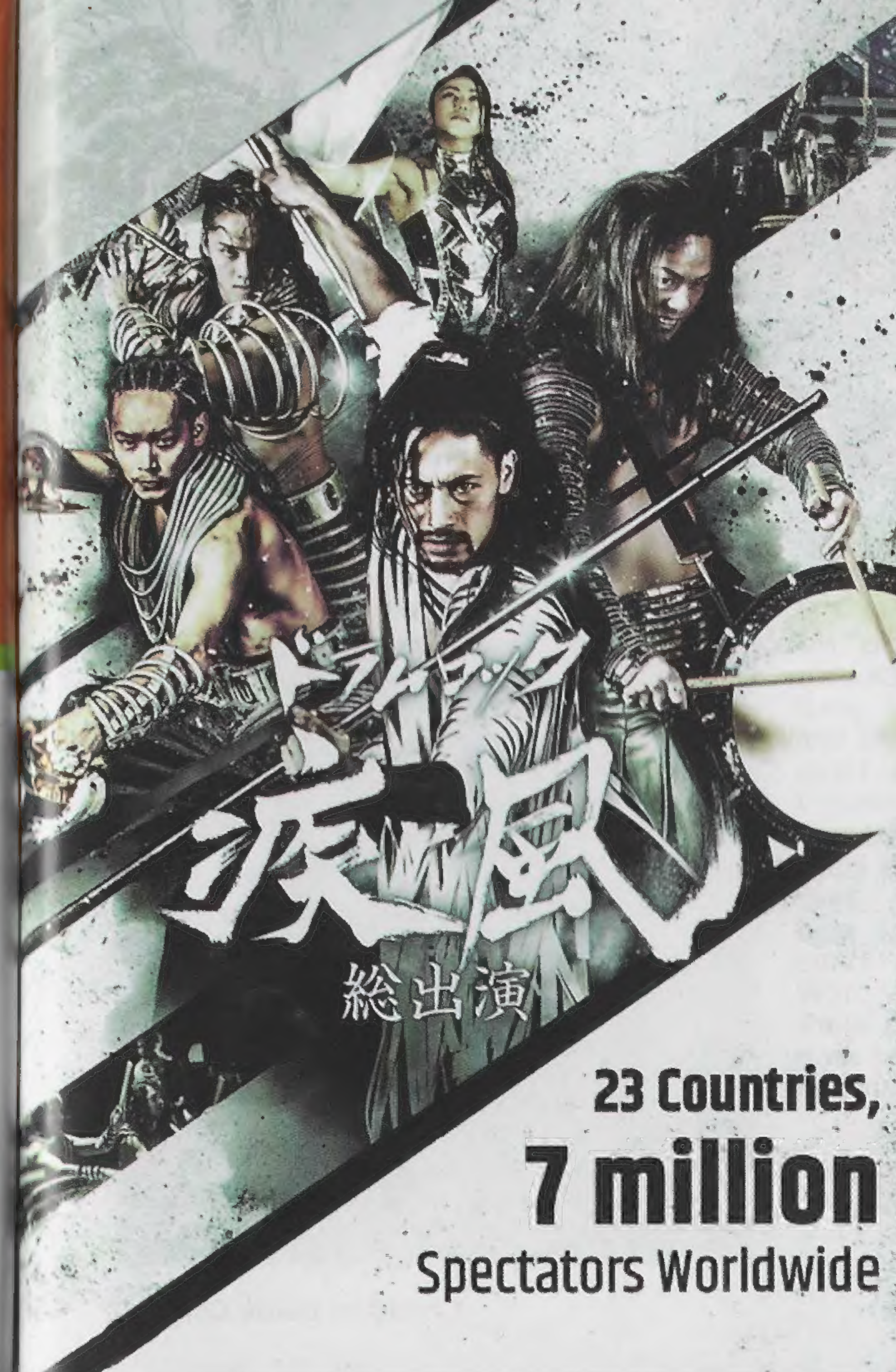
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Hello!! It's me again, **Bernadette Miguel**. This was my 2nd post of art in Otaku Asia Magazine.

After I read the information about My Hero Academia in your Magazine, I became interested and I realized I became addicted to it. I even joined every club of it. I hope that you featured BNHA cause there will be season 3 and a new movie of it this 2018.

Thank you for your awesome issues you made and here is my fanart. Hope you like it ^^

I would like to thank you for everything. For giving us Otakus the joy everytime we read your features and reviews. I would like you to feature Boku No Hero Academia (My Hero Academia) I love all of the characters! and also Classroom of the Elite (Hindi kona expect yung ending. I love Ayanokoji-kun <3) I want also Haikyuu! but since you have already featured it, I'm now thankful. keep up the good work Otaku Asia, me , my sister and some of my classmates will always support you!

Hikari Sandoval



Christian Louie Ong

KONNICHIWA! Otaku Asia Magazine is Amazing! I just started collecting your magazine and i cant say anything but 'wow' and 'assume' its the best magazine for an otaku fan like me, I really love it especially the manabimasu, art of otaku, and inbox section that got my interest and help me a lot, now I know those things, hihhi hope I'll learn more using your magazine. Anyway...I'll rate your magazine as 100 if necessary because its really amazing.. I feel like I'm part of a big society. Haha kidding a side. Well, keep it up guys and I'm looking forward for your next magazine issue.

Arigatou for an excellent magazine you have produced

Shannon Gonzales



Heimer J



Hi its my first time to share my fanwork. I love reading manga and your magazine Otaku Asia. I hope you will feature my artwork in your next issue. Thanks...and more power to you guys!!!

Chelsie Caras



Masayuki Hayakawa



Hello Otaku Asia! I just wanna say that I really love your mags. They were my inspirations to make these digital artworks I made in Photoshop. I hope mafeature to so that others will be encouraged as well. Sad to say wala kaming NBS dito sa lugar namin, di ako ma-update sa mga issues niyo. Pero chuks lang dahil everytime na pupunta kami sa ibang lugar, bibili naman ako ng mga issues na hindi ko pa nabasa. Hehe. More power to the mag po

Nethan CJ



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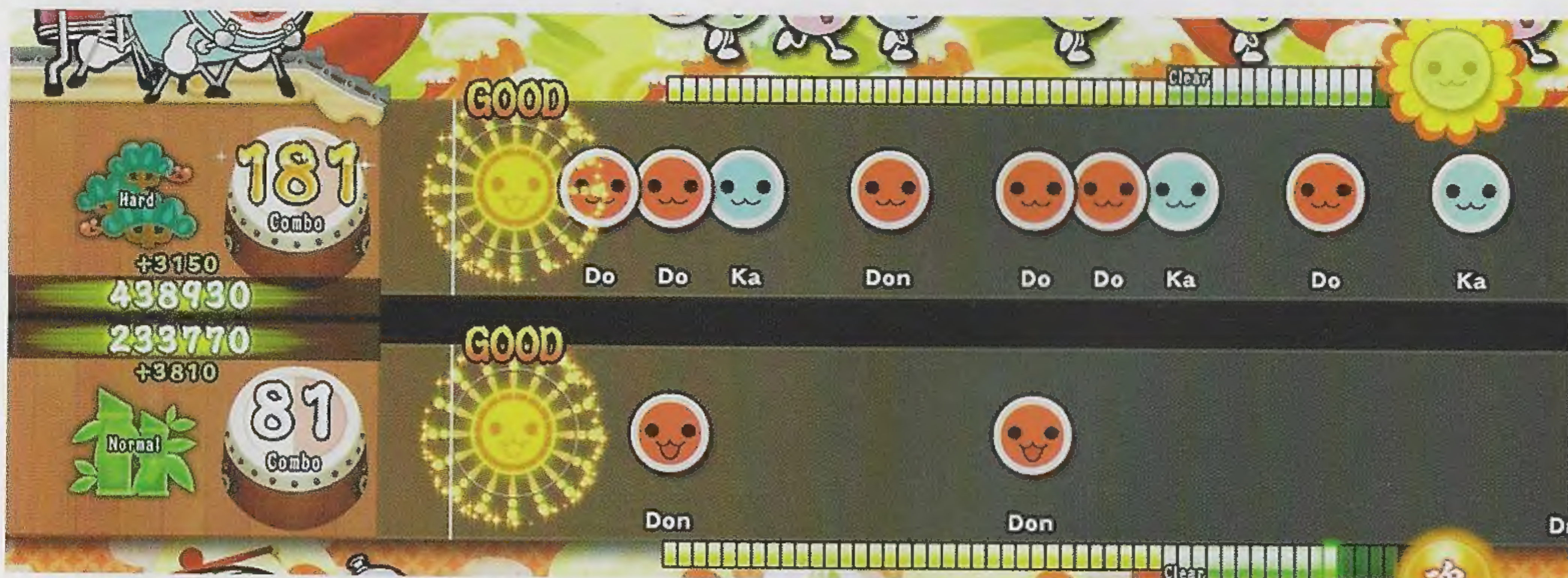
NEWS

by ann flores



POP-UP SAILOR MOON CAFÉ OPENS IN JAPAN

Starting September, the Sailor Moon Café will open its doors to guests in Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya, with another one in Fukuoka soon. These pop-up restaurants will feature the celebrated anime franchise with its menu inspired by the characters, including "Good Friends Luna and Artemis Burger," "Tuxedo Mask Jet-Black Curry," "Legendary Holy Grail! Rainbow Moon Chalice Parfait," and "Forbidden...Smoothie of Haruka and Michiru." Sailor Moon Café guests must make reservations to be included in the guest list and to be given one of the four luncheon mats and one of the three posters of the exclusive Sailor Moon Café 2017 artwork. The Tokyo branch will run until October 29 while the Osaka and Nagoya branches will run until November 5. Sailor Moon Café previously had other pop-ups across Japan last year with one in Tokyo in June.



TAIKO NO TATSUJIN: DRUM SESSION! RELEASES ENGLISH VERSION ON PS4

BANDAI NAMCO Entertainment Asia announced the release of Taiko No Tatsujin: Drum Session!'s English version for PlayStation 4 consoles for Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand set on October 26. The drum-based rhythm game will have different game modes such as Performance, Friend Session, Guest Session, and Rank Match Mode, which allows users to enjoy the game with family or friends or to challenge other online players by rank. Users can play with over 70 tunes from popular Japanese songs, classics, OST from anime and video games using the exclusive Taiko Drum Set to be included in the release. The Taiko No Tatsujin rhythm games were first released in 2001 and have been gaining popular success locally and abroad.



WORLD'S FIRST CAT CAFÉ TRAIN EXPERIENCED IN TOKYO

Yoro Railway Co Ltd. and Kitten Café Sanctuary hosted a one-day only event on September 10 for a limited number of passengers to experience being on a train trip with thirty rescued feline companions. The ride ran from Yoro Station to Ikeno while the second ride ran from Ikeno to Ogaki. Passengers bought tickets that included a bento box lunch and sweets, but the tickets were on sale on August 7 and were immediately sold out the same day. Proceeds went to NGO Kitten Café Sanctuary's cause. While the event happened in just a day, the Sanctuary teamed up with the local railway company to spread awareness to the euthanasia of stray cats. They aim to further reduce the number of cats admitted to shelter and the number of cats culled, both of which have already dropped in the recent years in Japan.



PROMOTIONAL VIDEO FOR AINOSHIMA INVITES ED SHEERAN TO VISIT

A video entitled "Dear Mr. Ed Sheeran" on Youtube features an appealing message to singer and songwriter Ed Sheeran to visit Ainosima, dubbed as Cat Heaven Island in Japan. Knowing Sheeran is a cat lover, the video features random cats living their carefree lives in the tiny island located off the coast near Fukuoka. Together with the feline impressions, the island's wonderful landscape is shown to the beat of Sheeran's hit "Shape of You." The message notes that the island's over 100 cats are "eagerly waiting" for him to stop over when he performs in Japan in October. Ainosima's cats were originally brought to the island to control rodent population, but over the years, the cat population has grown and has been pulling tourists to experience being surrounded by cats.



VR ZONE SHINJUKU TO FEATURE MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM: BATTLEFIELD BONDS VR PROTOTYPE

BANDAI NAMCO Entertainment's VR arcade in Shinjuku, Tokyo is set to release Mobile Suit Gundam: Battlefield Bonds or Senjō no Kizuna VR Prototype Ver. in winter of this year. The limited-time demo will have a cockpit-like setup with a domed screen for full immersion in a Mobile Suit battle. The site previously added Gundam VR: Daiba Assault to its roster of VR experiences with this one letting the player experience being on Gundam's hand as it engages in battle against Zeon. Now the world's largest VR center, VR Zone Shinjuku opened its doors to the public on July 14 with 13 other titles including Mario Kart Arcade GP, Dragon Ball: Master the Kamehameha, Evangelion: The Soul Seat, and Ghost in the Shell: Arise Stealth Hounds. Multi-player VR experiences became the highlight of BANDAI NAMCO Entertainment's center after the success of its first arcade in Tokyo from April to October 2016. Consequently, the company plans to open more VR centers in Japan and abroad.

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BENTO BOX

by kanddy
images by kanddy unless stated

"Where do we eat?" along with the line I never want to hear again, "You choose" are two of the phrases I'm traumatized to hear. Eating out should not be this hard. There are limitless choices and because we love Japanese food, I've put together restaurants that we think should answer your hunger.

These are all tried and tested restaurants!

01 OOMA @oomaph



That long line is definitely worth it. Trust us. It's a Japanese rice bar so expect heavy dishes. Chef Bruce Ricketts aims it to be affordable with Pinoy flavors. For us, we had the California Taco-maki, miso soup, Gyudon. Every dish tasted GREAT, fresh, juicy and crunchy in all the right ways. Overall, there were too many ooh and aahs for the food.

We want you to try their *aburi maki* (torched maki), their hot plates with unli rice and of course, their Hanger Steak. To die for.

Locations:

- 3/F Mega Fashion Hall, Megamall
- Edades Tower and Garden Villas, Makati
- LG/F Bonifacio High Street, BGC.

02 ZIPANG @zipangPH



The place can be a short walk from MRT GMA-Kamuning Station. The space was rather small but the food was sublime. The chef is Japanese who married a Filipino. The staffs are very attentive. For us, we got the Tontatsu teishoku set and Zipang Ice Cream.

Try their *Teishoku* Sets, either *Nikatsu* or *Buta Kakuni* are really good. Ask if they have *Chirashi* (something sort of off menu) and their tea is great.

Location:

- 11th Jamboree Corner Scout Fuentabella Street, Sacred Heart, Tomas Morato, Quezon City

OTAKU ASIA'S RESTAURANT GUIDE!

All of their food is all very good and affordable overall so our guide will only be mainly on the store's location and our recommended dishes.

03 HOSHIMARU @Danpopofood



During otaku events in Megatrade, we would always walk all the way to the foodcourt to get some Hoshimaru. For us, we got Cheese Katsu and Chicken Teriyaki. Its inexpensive food court food and really good tasting.

Go and try the Donkatsu Udon set, cheese katsu, surely and their Donburi. Their noodles and sushi are somewhere in the 2-3 star quality and it's up to you. You'd also like to buy drink somewhere else (it's a food court). Feel free to mix and match!

Locations:

- L/GF SM Megamall Food Court Mandaluyong

image of @yaniano

04 TOKYO ICE CAFE



This is a new place in Mall of Asia and could actually be one of our new favorites. The place had meals as well as desserts. Eat the food but make sure to leave space for desserts because OMG YOU HAVE TO EAT THE BEARS.

We had Carbonara set (Carbonara, Tonkatsu, Potato salad, Green salad, Egg and Japanese Cheesecake) though the carbonara sauce could be improved; we loved the rest of the meal.

Get: Ningyo-yaki Bear, Honey Lemon Kakigori and Japanese Cheesecake

Location:

- G/F Entertainment Mall, SM Mall of Asia

05 KOMORO JAPANESE DINING



This place is usually full and busy thanks to their affordable sets. When I ate here, another family was trying to describe their meal in one word and came up with "juicy."

Try their Katsu Teishoku and Curry! They also have soba and udon (we've not tried this).

Locations:

- SM Megamall, Mandaluyong
- SM Southmall, Las Piñas
- SM City San Lazaro, Sta. Cruz, Manila

06 YOKOCHO JAPANESE FOOD COURT



Even though their hours are too short, the food was great and the choices are overwhelming. There were stalls for everything including ramen, fried food, rice bowls, crepes and beer even!

Must try are the cheese takoyaki, Buta Bara Nabe, yakisoba and mango crepe. Then come back again and again to try the rest because it all so good.

Location:

- 4/F Victory Food Market, Baclaran Parañaque

07 SUSHI NORI @SUSHINORIPH



So they have is mostly sushi (in many variants) plus some desserts and that is the best thing ever. You deserve some great sushi.

We got the Krazy Kani, California sushi, Tamago Nigiri and miso. Try it but also their Poke Bowls and the temaki variants. It is a very exciting experience~ I will be coming here for a snack. The line and wait is long though *sad face*

Locations:

- 4/f Food on Four, SM Aura Premier
- 5/F SM Megamall Fashion Hall
- 2/F Phase 2, UP Town Center
- W City Center, 7th Ave. BGC, Taguig
- G/F Power Plant Mall

08 TORI CHIZU @ToriChizuPH



SAY CHIZU because they are here in PH. This is a shop for *doria* (baked rice or modern *yoshoku*) made with rice, bechamel sauce and mozzarella cheese and your choice of meats. We had the Original and Soft Serve.

SAY CHIZU to Tori Chizu Original, Chizu Curry, Sesame Fish and Beef Yakiniku. For something cold, they have MilkChiz Soft Serve and Sesame Cabbage Salad.

Location:

- SM Megamall Bldg. A Ground Floor

image by @negumibracks

09 TAKOICHI TAKOYAKI BOMB



Imagine one takoyaki ball x5 in size. That is exactly what Takoichi offers. Other than having **ONE BIG BALL**, you can choose your toppings from eight flavors: teriyaki, onion, chili, corn bacon, melted cheese, classic and mentaiko.

If this is your first time eating takoyaki, try the regular sized one first to prepare you for the 200G maximum bomb. The bomb may include ingredients that are unique to a regular one (like quail egg) so it really is a treat.

Location:
- Upper Ground, SM Supermarket, SM Megamall Bldg A

image by Patricia Perez

10 MITSUYADO SEI-MEN



Recommended once again by a good friend, Mitsuyado sei-men serves only the best enough to be called the House of Tsukemen!

Try the Agedashi Tofu, spicy tuna, Char-siu Ramen and of course one of their Tsukemen (both cheese sauce or karshi are goooood)! So don't forget to take pictures as many of their dishes are also yummy to look at. Great way to show off hehe

Locations:
- 22 Jupiter st, Bel-Air, Makati
- Bluebay Walk, Macapagal Ave, Pasay
- G/F Venice Grand Canal Mall, Taguig
- 2/F Ayala Malls The 30th, Pasig

image by @Mitsuyado.seimen

11 TORI TORI KUSHIYAKI SNACK BAR



Another recommendation by a dear friend, kushiyaki is his favorite. Kushiyaki (串焼き) is a formal term that encompasses both poultry and non-poultry items, skewered and grilled. He calls Tori Tori as a hole in a wall place perfect for that small snack that can whet an appetite.

For starters, butabara (pork belly), wagyu and saikoro steak are great. Then you can also try their sushi like the dragon roll and chirashidon.

Locations:
- 197 Wilson Street, San Juan
- Pearl Plaza, Ortigas, Pasig City

image by @toritori.ph

12 10 RONIN @10RONINPH



If you are starting to miss the Filipino flavor then this place is perfect for you. With a pocket-friendly menu, you are sure to splurge.

Get the spicy tuna maki, ronin sisig nori, US beef tapa gyudon and spicy chicken tinola ramen. We should actually enumerate the full menu as they have really done it well: Filipino dishes cooked in Japanese techniques.

Location:
- 4357 Montojo St. Brgy. Sta. Cruz Makati

image by @10roninph

... And many more so much more



We haven't even mentioned Tsuta, world's first Michelin-starred ramen house that is opening its branch in Taguig soon! There are also convenience stores, dessert shops and drinks like % Arabica that is about to open soon.

This has been very exciting and delicious article to write. We learned many things and will keep at it!

Surely, more and more Japanese restaurants are coming to the country. More people are also becoming aware of the demand for, not only Japanese food but good food in general. As they come to our shores, let us show our support by digging in!!! *Irasshaimase!!!*

This is but only our first food issue and we would review and recommend more to come by the coming issues, of course. We would like to thank our friends who have pointed us towards many go-to places that we would not have known without them. Thank you for all the suggestions!

Eat with us again, everyone!



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by kanddy

One game developer began questioning his career path, qualifications and choice. He pitched a role-playing game, *Fighting Fantasy*, assembled a small team but was ready to quit and go back to university if the game does not sell well. The game was renamed to *Final Fantasy* and was released for NES (Nintendo Entertainment System) on 1987. He is Sakaguchi Hironobu and *Final Fantasy* went on to become Square Enix's bestselling video game franchise.

The series is well known for its recurring plot themes, character names and game mechanics. *Final Fantasy* became a driving force in the video game industry. A game changer, literally. In 2016, Square Enix launched a website announcing the 30th anniversary celebration of the *Final Fantasy* series.



The very first *Final Fantasy* game was released December 18 and so, many gamers and cosplayers widely celebrated it on this day. December 9-10, there was a gathering happening in Venice Grand Canal Mall in Taguig and we were there to witness it.

Participating games for the Anniversary:

- Final Fantasy XII: The Zodiac Age
- Final Fantasy XIV: Stormblood
- Final Fantasy XV
- Final Fantasy XV: Episode Gladiolus
- Final Fantasy XV: Episode Prompto
- Final Fantasy XV: Episode Ignis
- Final Fantasy XV: Comrades
- Monster of the Deep: Final Fantasy XV
- Dissidia Final Fantasy NT
- Dissidia Final Fantasy Opera Omnia
- Mobius Final Fantasy
- Final Fantasy Brave Exvius
- Final Fantasy Grandmasters
- Final Fantasy Record Keeper
- Pictlogica Final Fantasy
- Final Fantasy Dimensions II

- Chocobo's Chocotto Farm
- Final Fantasy Brigade: Break the Seal
- Itadaki Street: Dragon Quest & Final Fantasy 30th Anniversary

First of all, a thank you to Naru who organized and walked the papers for this shoot in Venice Mall. She is a hardworking cosplayer and she will always be a friend of Otaku Asia. It was our very first time inside the popular mall and it was quite spacious and generous with open spaces. Great for a photoshoot like this!

The first day started with nostalgic including like *Dissidia*, *Type 0* and *XIII*. Some cosplayers that participated were Ralph Lawrence, Kiri Leonhart, Gelo Grayson and Lune Flügel. For this day, there were many photographers very ready to take some great shots.

Otaku Asia participated as the behind-the-scenes (BTS) photographer and discreetly take these shots of our lovely cosplayers and photographers ~





The only problem Otaku Asia faced was the transportation to and fro the mall. There were no shuttle bus on weekends and car was one of the fastest ways to go. Otherwise, walking long distances to reach High Street. Despite that, the Venice 'canal', bird feeding area and the unfinished third floors proved to be great spots for a Final Fantasy character to pose.

A two-day shoot was tiring enough but many cosplayers came on both days (with different characters to boot!) and gave us photographers their best pose. These are a very dedicated group of people (dedicated too to play all those FF games!). Some rain fell upon us on the second day but it did not stop us at all! Where did you get these people, Naru?? (the Square Enix group page actually.)



One of the requirements of the venue was that the cosplayers participate in a Christmas Parade organized by the mall. This was done in the late afternoon and went around the area. The evening was closed with fireworks and cosplayers went back to the mall for a well deserved dinner

The photoshoot ended with many happy gamers, cosplayers and photographers. As participants of this event, we must address that gate crashing on any event is never okay. The venue required the organizers a list of names, equipment and roles for our own security. Gate crashing could lead to problems and the venue mistrusting the organizers. They may not allow cosplay photoshoots again.

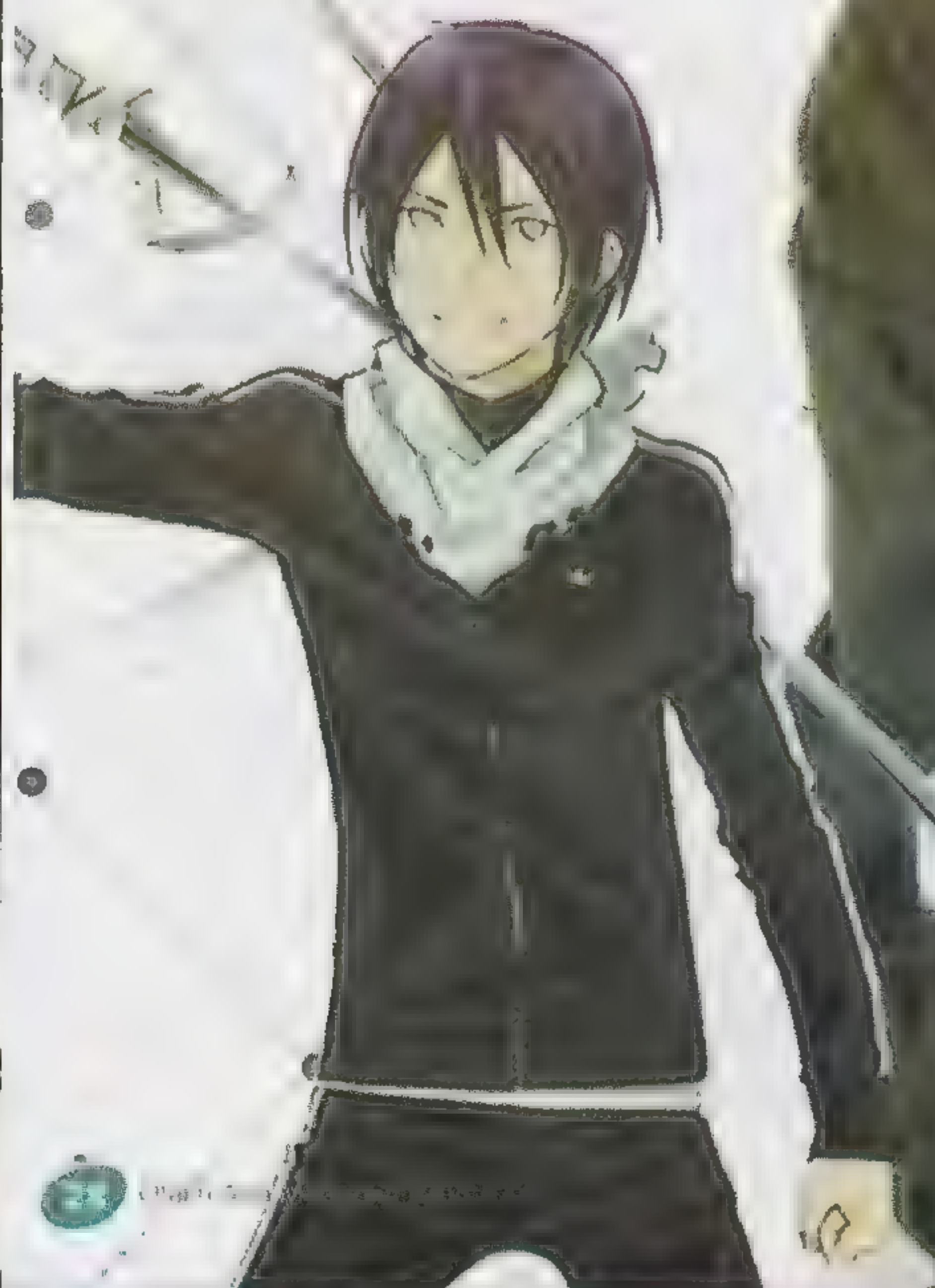
In conclusion, the photoshoot was a great way to showcase the Final Fantasy cosplayers, enthusiasts and cosplay photographers celebrating the 30th anniversary of Sakaguchi Hironobu's Final Fantasy in the way they know best. Congratulations to all the organizers and participants!



Hiroshi Kamiya

There is a name that's so familiar in the Annual Seiyuu Awards. He is the voice actor who dominated the prestigious award-giving body for five consecutive years, from 2012 to 2016 respectively.

Perhaps the most popular seiyuu who gets dubs on all the amazing characters in popular anime, Hiroshi Kamiya or more popularly known as HiroC, is already a legend himself. The 42-year-old voice actor began his career in 1992 with a minor role, and has since then established a name in the voice acting industry with his amazing talent. He is the first and only voice actor who made it to the Hall of Fame in the Annual Seiyuu awards. Many famous voice actors look up to him as their senpai such as Sugita Tomokazu (Gintama as Gintoki) and Miyano Mamoru (Death Note as Light).



Fast facts about Hiroshi Kamiya

Birthday: January 28, 1975
Nicknames: HiroC, Kamiyan
Birthplace: Chiba, Japan
Agency: Aoni Production
Best friend in the seiyuu industry: Ono Daisuke

Where Hiroshi Kamiya is, Ono Daisuke is also there. The two are almost inseparable. HiroC did many collaborations with OnoD such as an album and a radio show called Dear Girl ~stories~. Because of their contrasting personalities, HiroC being the more domineering one, their work is always a success.



Most notable roles:

Levi – Attack on Titan

Yato – Noragami

Akashi Seijuurou – Kuroko no Basket

Izaya Orihara – Durarara!!

Trafalgar Law – One Piece

Natsume Takashi – Natsume Yuujinchou

A controversy sparked just a year ago when paparazzi caught HiroC holding a toddler in his arms. He released a statement apologizing to his fans about not telling sooner that he has a family. He is known to be married to Hikaru Nakamura, a manga artist famous for the works Arakawa Under the Bridge and Saint Young Men. Since HiroC is marketed by his agency as the ideal guy, fans assumed that he is single. It is known in the entertainment industry that hardcore fans get extremely upset whenever they find out that their idols are not single, more so when he's a family man, and the voice acting industry is not an exception. For someone exceedingly famous like Hiroshi Kamiya, this would have been detrimental to his career. However, although some people have graduated from being HiroC fans since the incident, the voice actor is still loved by many.

Who wouldn't love and swoon over such an authoritative and sexy voice? HiroC's voice is hard to ignore. While some people watch anime for the plot or the handsome and pretty characters, HiroC's fans watch anime because he is in it, and that's already saying a lot about this man's powerful influence.





HOOKED BOOK

by Ann Flores

FREE! The best things in life are indeed free, and and Philippine Primer proves that by being the only monthly Japanese lifestyle magazine and website in the Philippines that comes at no cost but with tons of helpful content!

Under Primer Media Inc., Philippine Primer has been available online since 2007 and on print since 2008 for the Japanese expatriates as well as tourists who want to explore the Philippines through its food, views, education, business opportunities, events, people, and more experiences. Every month, Primer publishes print magazines in Nihongo and in English to cater to more than 50,000 readers.

From the best the provinces and the urban jungle have to offer, Primer scours the country to respond to the call of the readers' wanderlust as well as excitement for home as it also brings up some sights for future travel in Japan. Aside from being a handy guide on places to explore, Primer features tips to help foreigners ease their way into living in the country with introductions to the local cuisine like the vegetables and fish and how they are cooked. Even though there's mostly appreciation of the Philippine culture in its pages, Primer recognizes that its readers miss home every now and then, so they feature places within the metro where the best authentic Japanese food are available. On the lifestyle side, they offer beauty and fashion updates so readers remain in the know for what's hip no matter where they are. Educational and business opportunities are also available for those who wish to be more practical with the time they spend in the country.

Philippine Primer offers its digital magazine copy for free on its site www.primer.com.ph for English and www.primer.ph for Japanese. Moving from one place to another can be challenging but when you're in the Philippines and you have a guide like Philippine Primer, it's easy to be more familiar with the place you'll call home.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEW HOME

PHILIPPINE PRIMER MAGAZINE



COSPRAY



f COSPRAY t COSPRAY i COSPRAYCOLOR



its still fun with friends

NO DOUBT THE MOST ANTICIPATED COSPLAY EVENT, Cosplay Mania 2017 did not hold back in experiences. From event space, cosplay guests, screenings, competitions, Japanese Anime Music (JAM) guests and finally, anime directors, producers and voice actors!

Partnering with Anime Festival Asia and Sozo, Cosplay Mania sold tickets starting July 15 with SM Cinema and SM Tickets. Tiers Bronze, Silver and Gold were available with the option to upgrade tickets.

Social media went crazy when they started announcing guests and artists. JAM artists include Konomi Suzuki as part of her Asia Tour, kradness, ELISA and Shiena Nishizawa. JAM was scheduled in the evening after all the other programs. Though the four went out for interviews at Hall SP only available to Silver and Gold ticket holders.

JAM artist merchandise were announced and opened for pre order. However, claiming was only during the

event and inside a special hall. Many ticket holders encountered problems in this hall that they took to social media. The issue has been since investigated and Cosplay.Ph has apologized, promising that it would not happen again and that they are working to better the system.

Moving on the most exciting parts of the event: a panel discussion with Yuri!!! on Ice director and producer Sayo Yamamoto and Fuuko Noda. Though guests of this nature is not the first, it is the most uncommon making it crowd favourite. The fact that the anime YOI is widely popular to the Filipino fans also helped. The two asked that there be no photos taken of their interviews in hall SP and we congratulate the organizers fans for following though.

Sayo-sensei tells fans the secret behind the success of the anime and gave them something exclusive (*wink). They thank fans for the support and promises that they will keep doing their best. They are also welcome to return if we ask them (yes please, CosPH!!).

Anime voice actors Koutaro Nishiyama (Kazuhito Narita in Haikyu!!, Eichi Horimiya in TsukiPro The Animation and soon Ryūichi Kashima in Gakuen Babysitters 2018) and Wataru Hatano (Georgi Popovich in Yuri!!! on Ice and Hitoshi Shinsou in My Hero Academia) graced the stage. Many fans cheered for them and bade them to do well.



Schedule of events were posted outside the hall

In the most traditional cosplay event in PH tradition, cosplay contests were held. Since this is Cosplay Mania we are talking about they not only have the best and biggest but also international guests cosplayers: Angie, Eki, Hikarin, Knitemaya, Kong and Siutao helped judge the contests and hold interview sessions. They were very excited to meet other cosplayers, thank some fans and sell merchandise.

There were THREE cosplay contests that were feature onstage while a cosplay masquerade was being held off stage and in secret (one still had to register, though). The Cosplay Solo



Flowers from fans welcome Konomi Suzuki

Showdown and the finals for the Ultimate Cosplay Championship and Cosplay Mania Cup. National contests were held during several Cosplay Craze events throughout the nation.

Two screenings was held in the morning: footage of the Hatsune Miku Expo 2016 Japan Tour and Frame Arms Girl. Though these two were widely popular after their social media announcement, many fans were not able to watch as they were stuck in queue outside the hall. We saw many exhibitors watch though~

As to the long lines, we saw that the event lacked manpower. There was only one person handling the tickets per tier. This slowed down the process while the volume of people swelled. We hope that they fix this bottleneck problem in 2018.

That was Hall SP, and we'll move on to Hall EX where the exhibitors, shops, sponsor booths and small stage was in. This hall is accessible to all ticket holders.



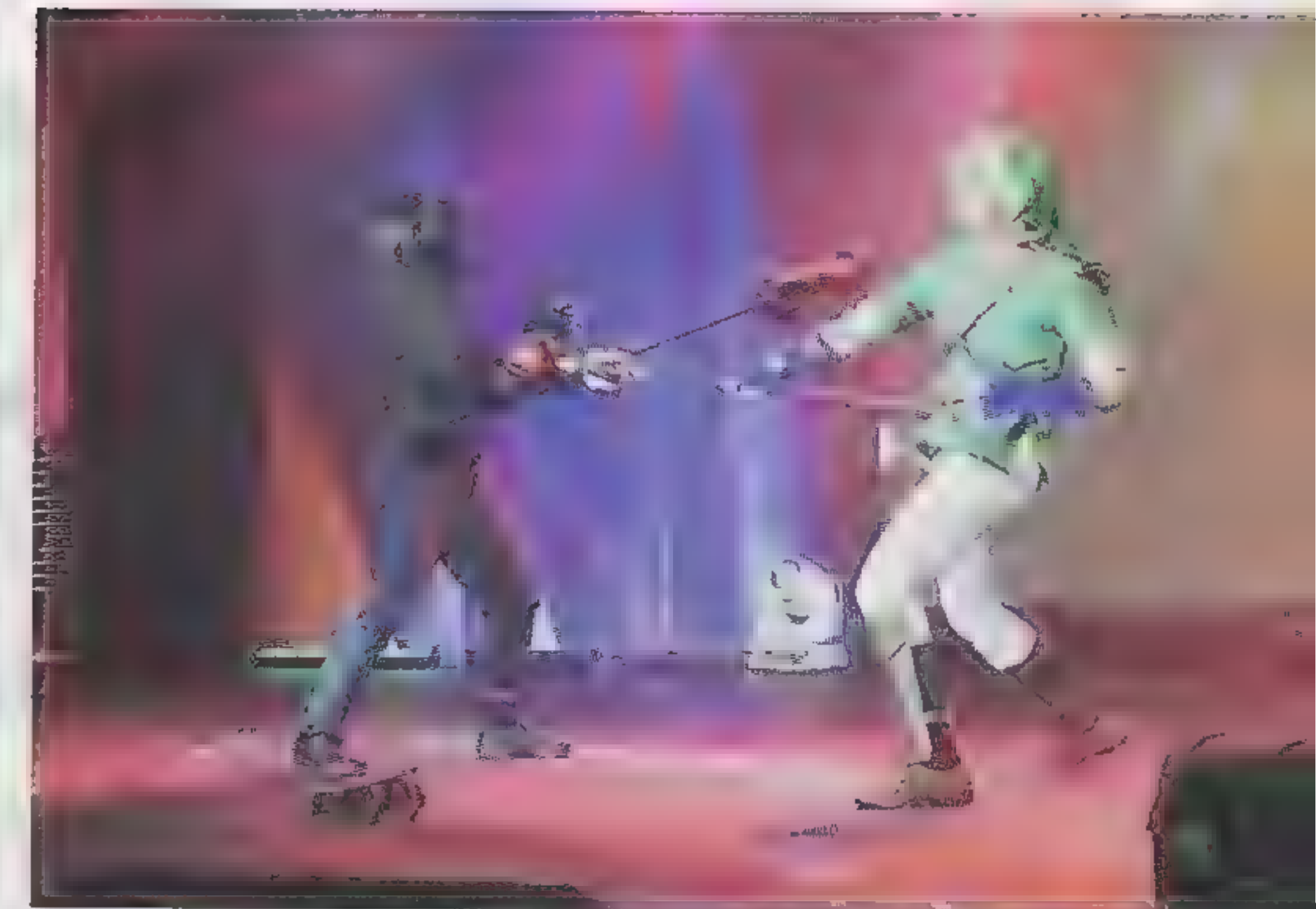
Animax booth and their mascots: Oo-kun and Chu Chu



Cosplayers show off their work



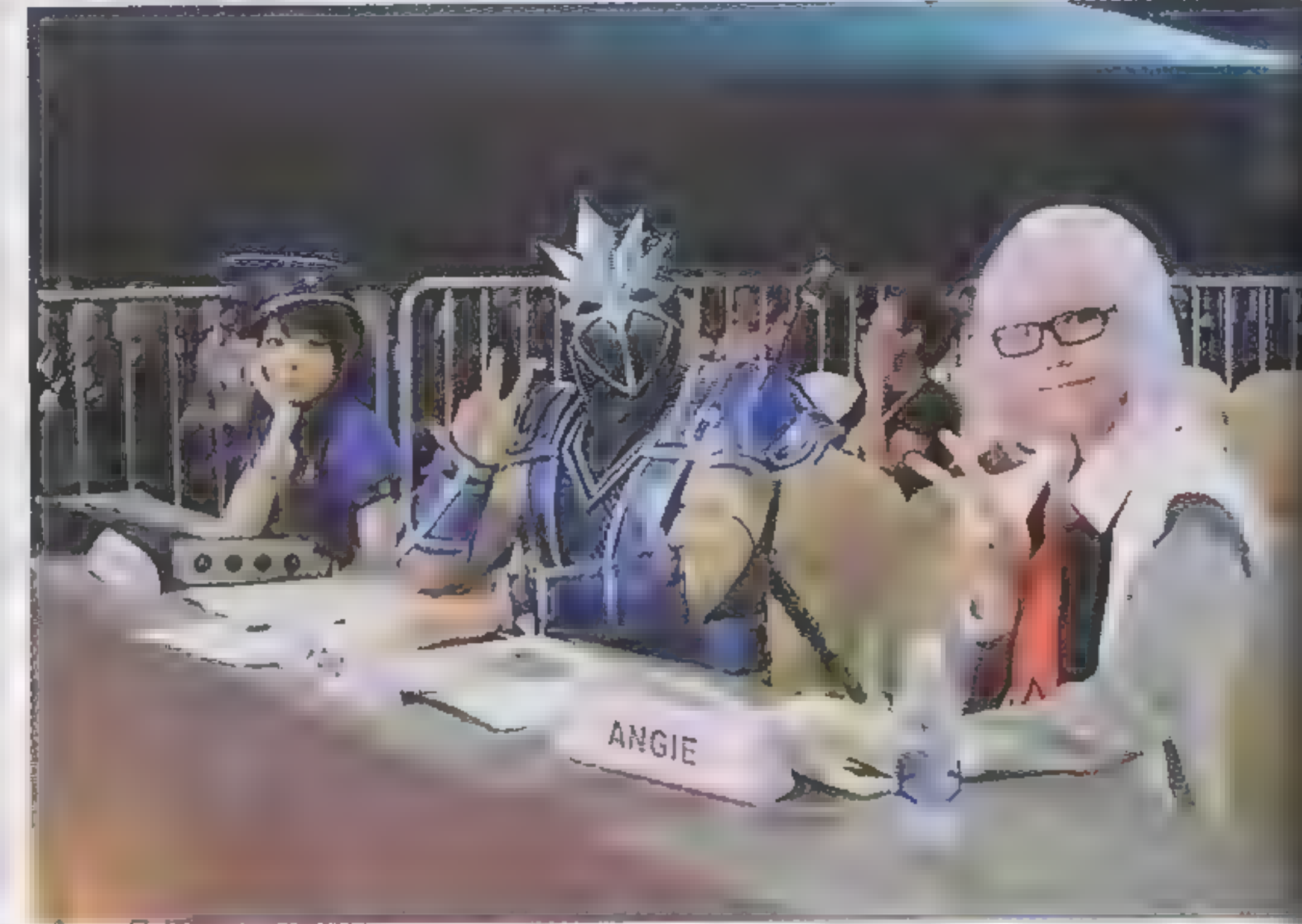
Toys and anime merchandise available in Hall EX



Ultimate Cosplay Championship was fun to watch



Inside Hall CS



Eki, Kong and Angie judge the cosplay competition



Jin and Miguel guest in Canon sponsor booth



Power Station area let you try Bemani Games for free

This is where we hanged out mostly. The spacious area that was Function Rooms 4-5 were occupied by 50 artist tables, 42 lifestyle exhibitors, 15 collector booths, 11 food stalls, 12 sponsor "Blockbuster" booths and last but not the least, **Quantum Amusement Corp.**, Power Station lets you play Bemani arcade for FREE.

Not only that, the EX stage held mini contests from sponsors like the **Mogu Mogu** drinking contest and the **Yoshinoya** eating contest. Performances by dance group **Seishun Kakumei** and the cover band **The Jarhead Syndrome** was also up on stage.

We enjoyed the Canon booth where they were lending cameras to ticket holders (you have to leave contact details and government ID), they also had a photo booth with two huge Pikachu stuffed toy. Cosplayers **Jin** and **Miguel** sold prints and artworks here too!

Animax Asia had an unlimited crane game where you can claw out OOKun and friends toys or get your photos taken with the mascots. They also had standees of the popular **Boku no Academia** characters. Merchandise and raffles were available.

The popular 88 Peso store, **Daiso Japan** brought out their best selling items to the event. You'd surely want to shop in their mini-shopping area. Their sakura tree was once again present.

Gundam fans would recognize the **Bandai** booth where both pros and beginners can build a basic gundam on the spot. Many kits were sold that day.

A small toy display was happening over the collectors' area. **Frame Arms Girls** took the spotlight and demanded attention. Oh it got our attention, alright. It was the best of both worlds: highly detailed mecha parts with beautiful (sometimes cute) girls!

It was here where we met up with many friends sharing stories of their experiences with the queues outside, the small robberies inside and the fun with friends that could almost make up for the bad times. The organizers did well on the activities to be experienced and the guests that many paid so much to meet and greet. Though faced with problems, **Cosplay.ph** has never failed to live up to their promises of improving themselves though the years.

The community is no longer just about the cosplay. It is also about buying original merchandise to support the artists and the series that we love. It is about showing appreciation to the producers and directors working behind the scenes. Challenging one to be able to meet with our idols and be able to show them the fruits of our labor. Learning from them and taking their words of encouragement to heart. Support local artists by buying their fanarts, fanbooks and merchandise and or asking for commissions.

We have grown to know better but there are more and more new fans coming to join us every time. It is up to us to show them the right track, learning from our mistakes and leading them to better experiences.

Cosplay.ph will be celebrating their 10th anniversary in 2018 remembering their first event in Megatrade Hall 3 with the theme "Plan... Build... Cosplay!" which was then full of workshops, costume building contest and cosplay competitions.

Since Pablo Bairan's September 2017 Facebook note about proving "to our Japanese guests that Filipino anime fans will give them our wholehearted support." and that "this could be the turning point that could change everything and give them the confidence to bring more amazing Japanese talent to the Philippines.", fans and regular congoers of the event series are excited what **Cosplay.PH** will bring out next year.



BENTO BOX

by kanddy

First of all, we'd like to thank all the wonderful companies that have brought in wonderful restaurants straight from Japan. With Yoshinoya, to DOHTONBORI and those luxurious places like Ooma and Yayoi, we have experienced extraordinary Japanese food. HOWEVER, don't you feel like they are all the same? Okonomiyaki, tempura, gyudon, etc only with special recipes of each restaurant. The only way I see to remedy this? Theme and Character Restaurants.

RESTAURANTS YOU WISH WERE HERE IN PH

Theme and Character restaurants are very popular in Japan. You've heard of maid cafes, anime cafes, Robot Restaurant and Kawaii Monster Cafe and so much more. Here we'll list down some of our favorites...

NINJA AKASAKA

Address: 2-14-3, Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Tokyu plaza Akasaka 1F

As if it was hiding its presence, the entrance to the restaurant is easy to miss. Upon entrance, a *ninja guide* will lead you to The Village. For food, they have a one of a kind black fried chicken and shuriken star shaped dishes that are said to be very creative. If your bill reaches 3,000 yen you get to experience ninja magic show right at your table!

image by @NINJA.AKASAKA



CAPCOM BAR

Address: 1-3-16, Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Pasera Resorts Shinjuku 1F
*reservation is recommended

By its name alone, you get the idea why we have this on the list. Popular characters from different CAPCOM games worldwide are present! Get "Ha do ken" if you order Ryu's cocktail. The Brain Cake from Resident Evil is something they are very proud of. Just have as much fun as the staff it'll be great!

image by @officialgameinformer



GUNDAM CAFE

Address: Diver City Tokyo Plaza 2F, 1-1-10 Aomi, Koto 135-0064, Tokyo

*reservation is recommended

Crowd favorite and very popular even with the non-otaku. The menu is the BOMB and they even have take outs (get the gunpla yaki). They would also have limited menus so time your visit right. Jaburo Coffee we hear is one of the best selling. Don't forget to buy some merchandise!! (Then see the 20M Unicorn Gundam~~)

image by g-cafe.jp



AKB48 CAFE & SHOP

Address: 1-1, Kanda Hanaokacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Fans would enjoy this shop (and we are hoping Ayala would open one beside the theater). Clearly a haven for followers of the idol group AKB48, the restaurant offers member-specific drinks and meals. Though often reviewed to be not filling, it is the ambiance and the service that cuts this restaurant above many idol cafes. Photos of each team member and artwork cover up the walls.

image by @akb48cafeshops



ARTNIA

Address: 1F Shinjuku Eastside Square 6-27-30 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo

We'd like to remind people that most theme/ character restaurants are not very filling. You'll be paying for the presentation of the food, experience, ambiance and small merchandise. This is a cafe that serves Square Enix themed coffee, pancakes, soup, snacks, cocktails and drinks with "potion" names like Elixir, Shiva, Blue Materia, etc. (source: kotaku)

image by jp.square-enix.com/artnia/en





LUIDAS BAR

Address: 5-16-3, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo

A *Dragon Quest* themed tavern in Roppongi. Offers real-world delicacies and *potions* modelled after in-game items. There is a turkey leg branded with the *Dragon Quest* logo, a slime monster meat bun, and a curry with a delicious, detached hand in it. A 90 minute time limit still applies to accommodate the bar's popularity (source: tokyopop.com)

image by paselabo.tv/luidas_bar/index.html



GUDETAMA CAFE

Address: 5-15 Kakudacho, Kita-ku, Osaka-chi, Osaka

Despite featuring a lazy character, Gudetama Cafe is nothing of the sort! From the dishes to the drinks and even the interiors, everything is well designed and thoughtful. The Gudetama craze never ends. Try their Nagai Mono Ni Makaretai Pasta, mango crepe and Ana Ga Attara Hairitai Melon Soda Float. Translate the menu items to English and get laughter.

image by digjapan.travel



ROBO-KICHI

Address: 3F, 1-10-15 Nishiikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo

Somewhere in Ikebukuro boasts manga, anime and video games that is a "Robot Base" Izakaya. Designed after an anime-style base, the restaurant offers original menu inspired by the 80's Golden Age of robot anime from Gundam to Macross! They also offer merchandise and Bandai Channel Touch that lets you watch and enjoy robot anime!

image by @izakayarobokichi

ANIMATE CAFE

Address: several shops in Japan

You will never regret coming here. The fact that you hold this magazine means you love anime and this cafe loves it so much, it changes menu **ALL THE TIME**. Well, thanks to collaboration efforts, they feature dishes and drinks themed to the latest and popular anime.

The cafe requires Animate Card free membership for reservation due to obvious popularity.

image from cafe.animate.co.jp



KAMEN RIDER THE Diner

Address: 1 Chome-21-9 Nishiikebukuro, Toshima, Tokyo

Sentai fans will rejoice when this comes to the PH. I would. Expect a huge collection of authentic Kamen Rider belts and figures. Fan arts are welcome so feel free to doodle while you enjoy some food. Though said to expensive, I wonder what theme menu isn't.

image from paselaresorts.com/collaboration/rider/index.html



As they say, *libreng mangarap* (it's free to dream) and it's never really impossible to simply go to Japan and enjoy these dishes, merchandise and experience as they are. Some of these restaurants are also limited edition. Meaning theme cafes have a set closing day announced even before they open. The possibilities of them opening again could be annually like the Kewpie Restaurant that has become somewhat a tradition.

It is also not too shabby to try our own theme restaurants of our own. like the Hello Kitty Cafe in Uptown Mall, ohBento in Nuvali or Pokemasters Cafe in Cebu (featured previously, photo on left).

That said, eat with us again, everyone! See you next food issue (damn, these are really fun to write).



KONTRABIDA KA BA

"Are you a villain?"

Villains get the worst treatment from the audience and might even get slain at the end. However, in Philippine television, being a villain may be one of the most coveted roles. They get remembered and go down in history!

From the creators of the Born to Make History event comes this party for the Halloween: Kontrabida Ball! The night was promised to be full of guests: from the models of the RFA party, Liui Aquino who co-organized the event through his new company, Coscorp, the Grayson siblings to artists CP Coulter, Kune Delgado and Kristell Lim!

The venue was lit with green and purple lights, there was a table of goodies beside the stage, buffet food were laid down, open bar was also up running plus friends from Moonstruck Creatives were taking photos of the guests.

THE GUESTS. Oh gosh. Everyone was so dressy niced. In cosplay or just in on their best Halloween dress~ Villains from anime, Disney, western movies, cartoon and more!!



The event was perfectly dated: it was Friday the 13th of October at One Cafe and Events Place, Ortigas. The event delivered a unique, meaningful and (of course) less mainstream event experience.

Entrance fee was also very affordable that included buffet, bottomless drinks and alcohol! Meaning, the event was strictly for the 18+. Lying and crashing not allowed, naughty~



Host Liui Aquino was in his Vector (Despicable Me) cosplay and before the program started, he went around from table to table chatting with the guests. We spotted Jin Joson and friends as Rowdyruff Boys (The Powerpuff Girls), Kristell Lim as Cruella deVil (101 Dalmatians), CP Coulter as a wonderful Red Queen (Alice in Wonderland), Ady Laine and Gelo Grayson as Dawn Bellwether and a police from Zootopia! His sister, Dinny Grayson came as a perfect Sheego (Kim Possible)! Then our friend Yuri Nanami went as Chuya (Bungo Stray Dogs).



Finally, the night started with introductions, and a wonderful bidding! The event partnered with Authority Hoodie and held a bidding for their jackets modelled by some of notable guests including Joel Minas in his Akira (Persona 5) costume~.

The event also crowned the best kontrabida cosplay and the best dressed of the night: Monty Mendigoria as Hades (Hercules) and Kiryuu Aikawa in her wickes black dress. They both won their own Kontrabida trophy and goods from Authority Hoodie. They were well deserved awards.



A good game Pinoy Henyo was also played with guests guessing memorable baddies from Mojo-Jojo, Gaston to Senyora Santibanez!! Players included Miguel Mercado as Jack Sparrow (Pirates of the Caribbean). Afterwards the real party began: DJ Migs Santillan of Magic 89.9 played tunes and party dance music where many danced and even formed a conga line! It was very hyper and upbeat party and everyone enjoyed the open bar!



The food was amazing, the company wonderful and the music was exciting. In a roomful of villains, was where we felt so happy! Weird. Haha kidding~ Thanks and congratulations to the organizers, guests and staff. To sir Romeo and Moonstruck Creatives team, friends, villains, beautiful people!

Find it at [#kontrabidaball2017](https://twitter.com/kontrabidaball2017)

these buns are trendier than you

Izakaya (いざかや) is a casual after-work place to eat and drink. They are everywhere and extremely popular in Japan. Here in the Philippines we have 12/10.

Japanese restaurant 12/10 is the second and more mature brainchild of Thea de Rivera and Gab Bustos (of The Girl + The Bull) that first opened in 2014.

The restaurant, being an izakaya, specializes in cocktails, spirits and (our favorite) sake. They would sometimes have suuuper good Japanese liquor. To name a few, Hi Nikka is a whisky blended by the Father of Whisky himself, Masataka Taketsuru. Sundays Grocery Junmai and Junmai Nigori sake are made all the way from Akashi, Hyogo by a highly skilled and dedicated team of brewers. While the Suntory Roku Gin is a legend. And then... ahem. Children, drink responsibly.

Their food (that we love) include Raw Tuna Salad (kyuri, yuzu kosho, maple syrup, ebiko, schichimi and nori) and Salmon Kushiyaki (truffle oil, aonori, black sesame, wasabi, surry and corn flakes). Don't ever forget the Katsu Sando (yuzu kosho, tare, red cabbage, kyuri, steamed bun) that will surely become your favorite bun. They sometimes have specials off menu so don't be afraid to ask.

Come along along 7635 Guijo St. in Brgy. San Antonio, Makati to taste! Open 5pm-11pm Monday to Saturday.



Thai Tea Philippines



@thaiteaph



Available In:



LANDMARK
Makati Trinoma





Guide to Shopping in Lazada Taobao Collection

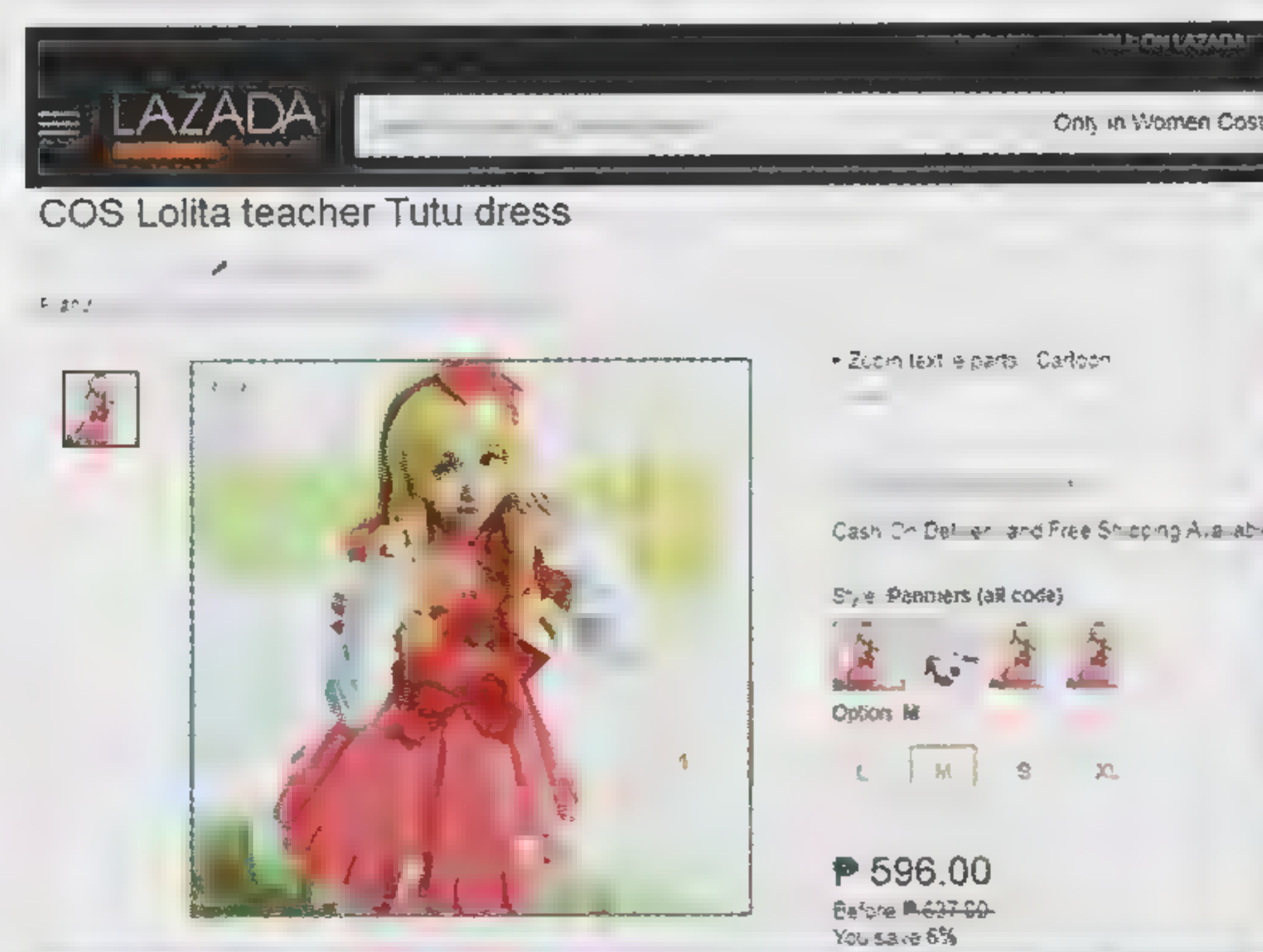
It has been months since the Taobao Collection was made available in Lazada PH. Many cosplayers excited for this since Taobao costumes are known to be very affordable. Now with Lazada, you wouldn't have to worry about shipping fees because it's free nationwide! After ordering a number of products, we have gotten used to the new system and got more experienced. Most purchases were successful but some were just satisfactory.

To help you with your purchase, we'll take you through the most common problems now!

Name

You may start searching "Elf Yamada Costume" and get nothing but find her costume while browsing with "COS Lolita Teacher Tutu Dress" as title. Item titles and (most) descriptions are directly translated from Chinese to English so we may find it confusing. Lazada is working on this, we hope. The best way is to use context clues, browse and have patience.

Lots of patience.

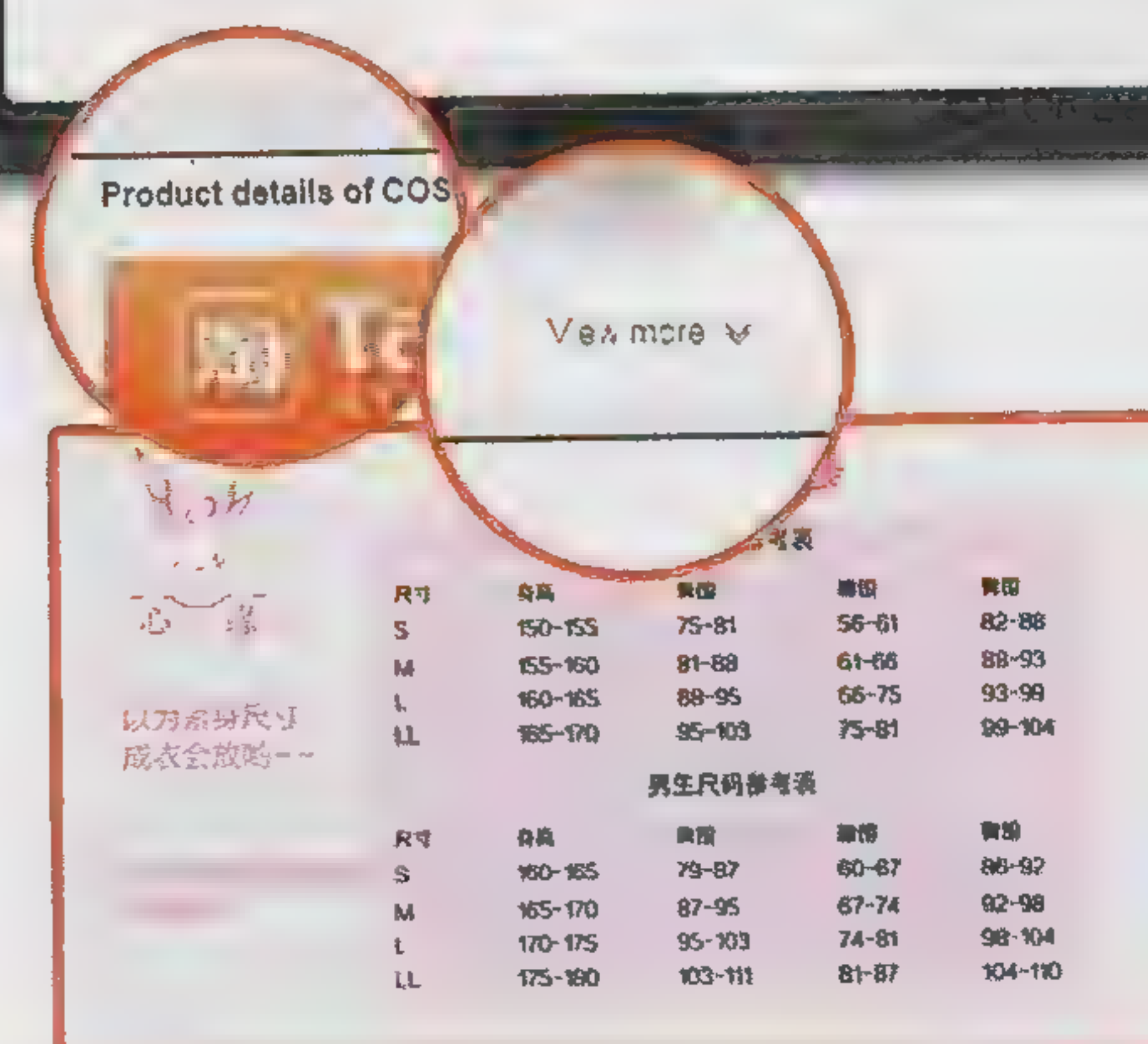
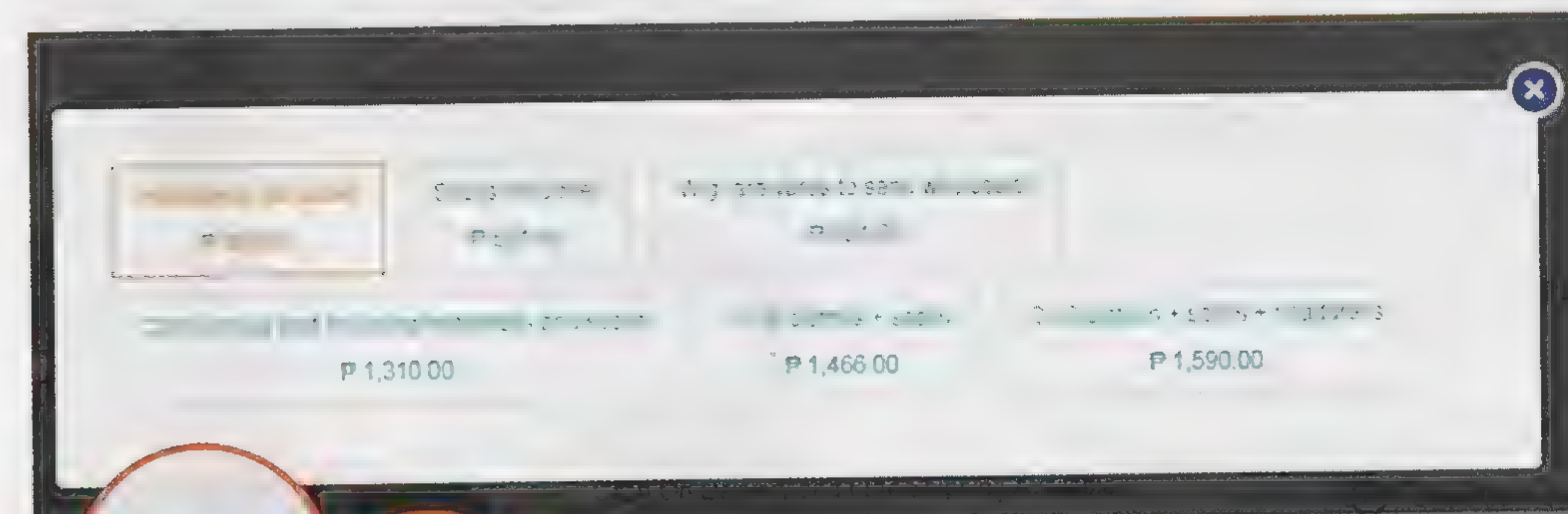
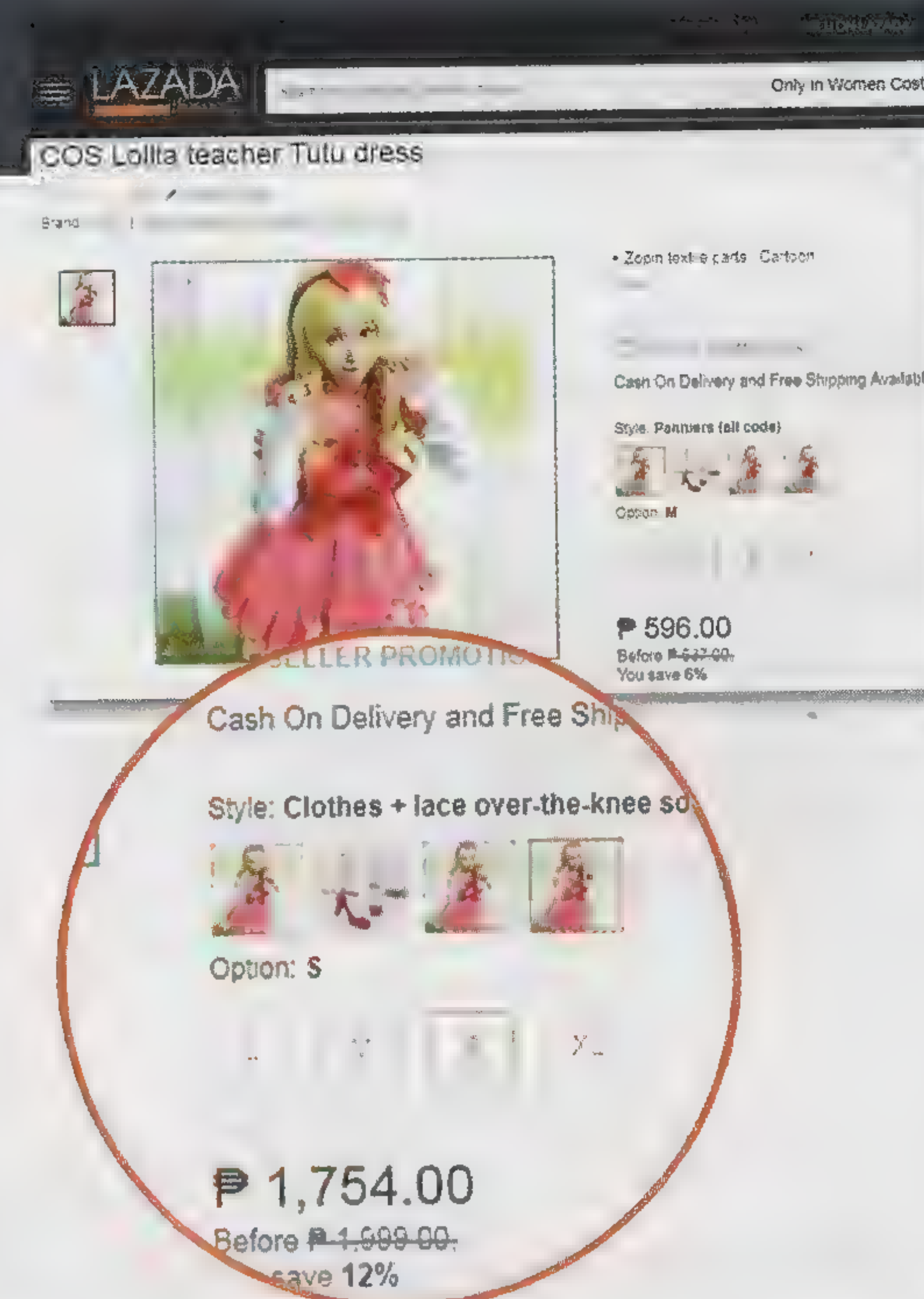


Style & Option

Lazada-Taobao listings for costumes may sell costumes by parts or sizes. However, the image that they use may get misleading so learn to read details. Using the same example, you'll notice that the item in the image is a full costume. Before you click "Add to Cart", STOP. LOOK. READ.

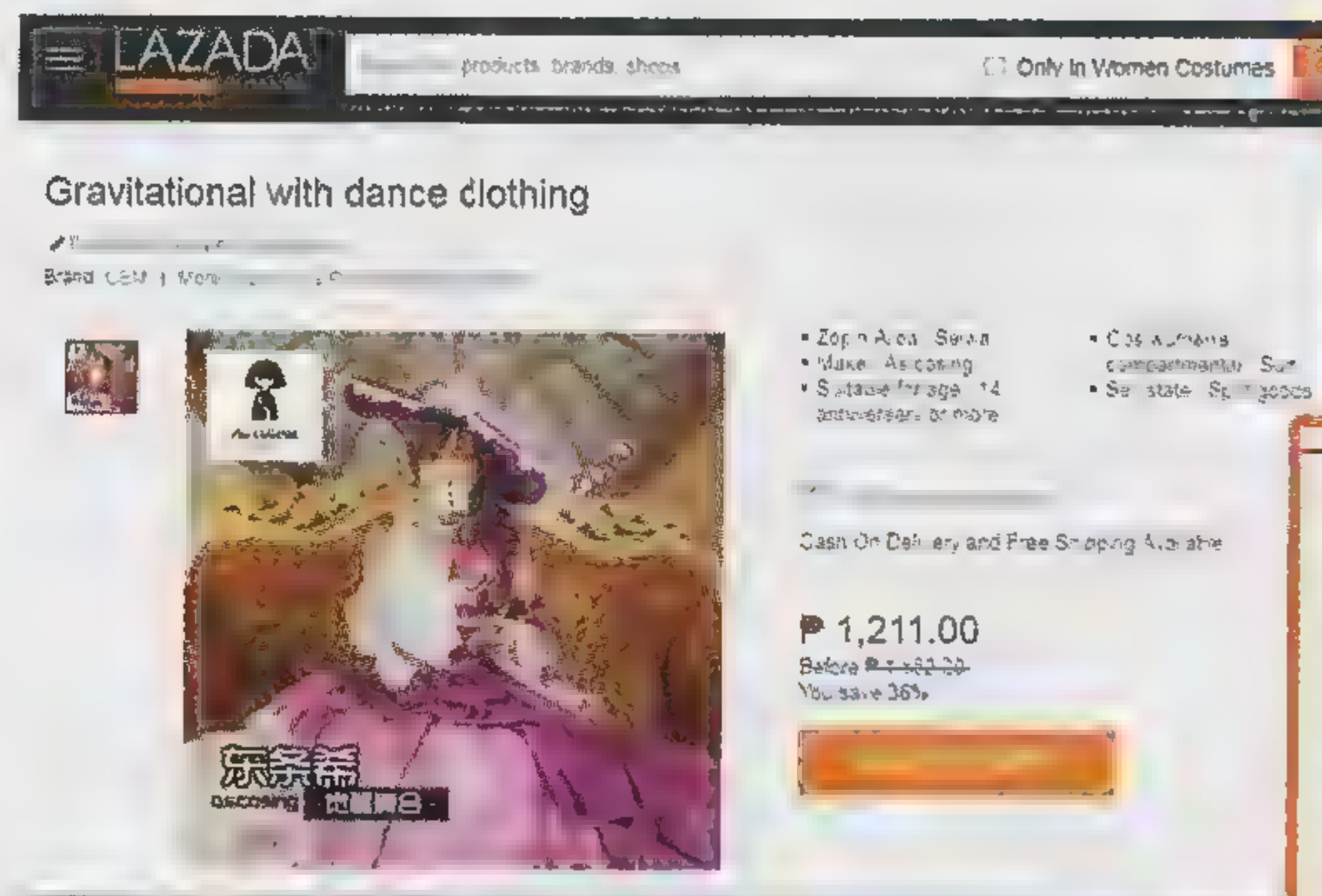
There is a selection under **STYLE**. In this example there are four smaller images that when hovered shows you four options: panniers, red high-heeled, clothes and clothes + lace over-the-knee socks. Notice which has a **RED BORDER** and that will be the listing you are currently looking at. If you click one of the pictures, it will open a new page.

Other costumes might have a button "+ more", a pop up like below will show and you'll see the different offers.



Another is the **OPTION**. This is where you choose your size. Options could be the same for many listings: S, L, M, XL or other and changes in size may mean different prices. For a more detailed size chart, scroll down and click "View More" until you see the chart.

Different brands under Taobao may list their sizes differently for every costume. Double check before you buy!



There are listings where Style and Options selections will not show. Scroll down till you find the "SPECIFICATIONS FOR..." section. This tells you the full details about the item.

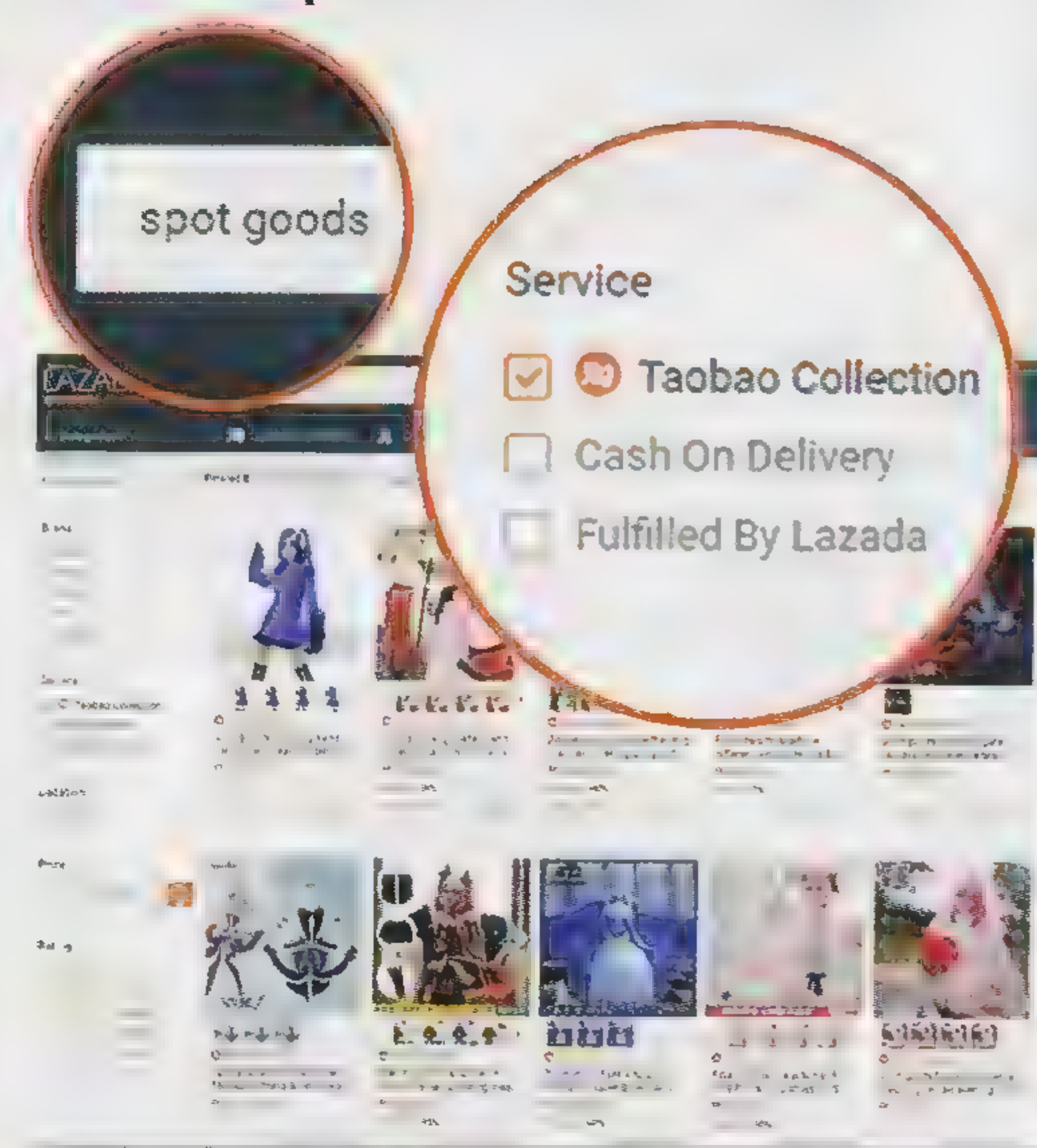
Did You Know: Panniers (n) hooped petticoat.

Specifications of Gravitational with dance clothing	
What's in the box:	1x item
General Features:	
SKU	C6121T9AA774LPANPH42128534
Option 1	Panniers
Option 2	U
Model	Not Specified
Tassel: Silver Name	ascosing 旗舰店
Warranty: 1 year	No warranty

Brand Name

You may have previously ordered straight from Taobao and are familiar with the brands. Known costume and wig brands are available in Lazada but under other names. Some may have been lost in translation.

Here is the list of the available brands and their equivalent name in Lazada.



Ascosing = Gravitational
Butterfly Brand = Hudiejia

Monenjoy

Ruler

Lucaille

Uwowo

Mcoser

Raincos

"Spot Goods"

If you prefer to browse the different cosplay items available on the site, just type "spot goods" and filter the results to Taobao Collection only.

As you go through the results, you would also find wigs and costumes that are unbranded and other brands not well-known among the community.

A+ Lazada Services

Despite the items coming from overseas, it is guaranteed to arrive. Sometimes even faster than other third party service! Standard Lazada shipping is free, legitimate and fast. Imagine only waiting 2-3 weeks when some online third party service might have cut offs and make you wait a month.

Also, Cash on Delivery is available to most Taobao listings. Along with reliable return policies. Despite the lack of good Chinese-English translations, you are sure to get the best of Lazada service with every purchase.

If you are still having problems:
lazada.com.ph/how-to-buy/
lazada.com.ph/helpcenter/

Delivery options

Ship to
Main Office in Main Office, Lazada Office

CHANGE

Standard: Fri 2 - Thu 8 Feb

Free

Ships from overseas

Cash on Delivery available

7 days easy return
Change of mind not applicable

No warranty available

Sale!

In contrast to the belief that Taobao only have sales on 11/11 (November 11) and 12/12 (December 12), there are other days when they so on sale. Some sales may not cover all items. These are the other possible dates they are likely to have a sale:

January 1st
May 1st
May 5th
June 18th
August 15th
December 30th



Cosplay in the Philippines has certainly evolved; many can do it for fun, to meet new friends or to compete. We have certainly come a long way. Hope this tutorial/ guide has helped you and hope to see you and your new costume soon!



HOW TO EAT THE JAPANESE WAY

by Ann

You've seen and heard characters on anime series and manga say "itadakimasu!" but there's a lot more customs in Japan when it comes to eating. So, we've listed down most of them here!

DO'S

- DO put your palms together, bow a little, and say *itadakimasu* before eating. This means "I humbly receive" or "thank you for the meal I am about to receive." This expresses gratitude not only to the people who prepared the dish, but also for the blessing of food in general.
- DO open the lid of a bowl with your right hand while your left hand holds the bowl. Then, place the turned over lid next to the bowl. When you're done eating, put the lid back on the bowl the way it came.
- DO lift your bowl or small plate from the table, bringing it closer to your mouth. Don't do this with large plates.
- DO pick up your bowl before picking up your chopsticks.



- DO make slurping noises when eating Japanese-style noodles like *udon* and ramen because doing so indicates that you are enjoying your meal and allows you to inhale cold air to make it easier to cool down the food.
- DO pour soy sauce in a sauce dish but be mindful that you don't put too much. Dip your sushi or *nigiri* in soy sauce with only the meat touching the dip.
- DO rest your chopsticks on a chopstick rest (called *hashioki*) if provided, not across the top of your bowl. If there's no chopstick rest, use the wrapper that came with the chopstick.
- DO put your palms together, bow a little, and this time say "*gochisosama*" or "*gochisosama deshita*" as another thanks for the meal when you finish eating.

DON'T'S

- DON'T eat while walking as it's seen as a lack of respect to the food. It can also be messy as you're prone to spill your food. Though there's street food in Japan, it's best to eat your food on the spot.
- DON'T leave your chopsticks standing up in your bowl as it's a funeral ritual.
- DON'T pass food from one set of chopsticks to another as this is called *awasebashi*, which is done with cremated bones at a funeral.
- DON'T point at dishes while deciding what to eat (*mayoi-bashi*). If you touched food with your chopsticks and pulled away without taking it, it's called *sorabashi*, another offensive habit.
- DON'T wave your chopsticks as you talk or use the chopsticks to point at things. Also, don't stab food or scratch an itch with them as these acts are considered playing.
- DON'T leave any food in the soy sauce dip and DON'T pour soy sauce directly on your food.

- DON'T use your hand to catch falling food. You can ask for *tezara* or hand plate, but it's best to practice not having any falling food at all.
- DON'T bite your food into smaller pieces as you should try to eat in one bite. You can cover your mouth as you chew big. If the size of the food is too big for chewing, you can break them using your chopsticks, but avoid *chigiribashi* or the act of using chopsticks with both hands and cutting food as if the sticks were knife and fork.
- DON'T burp or blow your nose at the table. Both are considered rude, although sniffing is acceptable. If you must blow your nose, do it in the restroom.
- DON'T leave any food behind. Just as much as the Japanese takes great care in preparing meals, they are mindful of avoiding any waste. However, if you really can't finish your meal, you can consider having it wrapped for takeout, but you have to check with the restaurant first as most of them don't allow this.
- DON'T tip. If you leave cash on your table, expect the waiter to chase you to give it back.

While it does look like there are a lot more don'ts when it comes to table manners and use of chopsticks in Japan (to the point that they have names for offenses), the number one rule is don't be afraid to try and enjoy Japanese food!





Freedom of Art!

Hello Otafans!

For this issue, I'll tell you a short story about my art improvement and how often I change my style. My artstyle changes from time to time, like the way I draw eyes, body proportions and coloring. There are also times that I hate my old drawings.

Just look how I draw Ochibi every year!



I'm still trying to improve myself, trying out new things, styles and tricks that will suit me better! If you don't like your current style now, break it down and figure out what suits you the most.

Don't be scared to look for inspirations. Adapting your favorite artist style would do too! Like me, my most influential artist are Kantoku, Nardack and Anmi! Feel free to oddify certain aspects so you don't end up mimicing the whole style. You want to be inspired not copy-pasted.

I would also recommend trying different media.

Improving can be done while maintaining your own artistic vision. A drawing is the result of many artistic choices that you make. If you decide one way, you can still always decide something different next time.

Don't be afraid to explore new things, inconsistency means that you're improving. With art, you can keep changing, adding, exploring until you're happy with it, there is no reason not to do something to your own satisfaction. It's *your* art anyway!



As you change, you will notice what your signature style is and you can build it up to be your brand and what you'll be known for. If you are looking to sell your art, this could be your edge amongst all the other talented artists like you.

Don't hold back and keep moving forward! You will get where you aim to be and who you look up to in due time. For now, draw every day, keep changing and stay inspired~

Best of luck with your Journey!
-Xander

O'Fallon's

JANUARY

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NOVEMBER

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ANIME ON NETFLIX

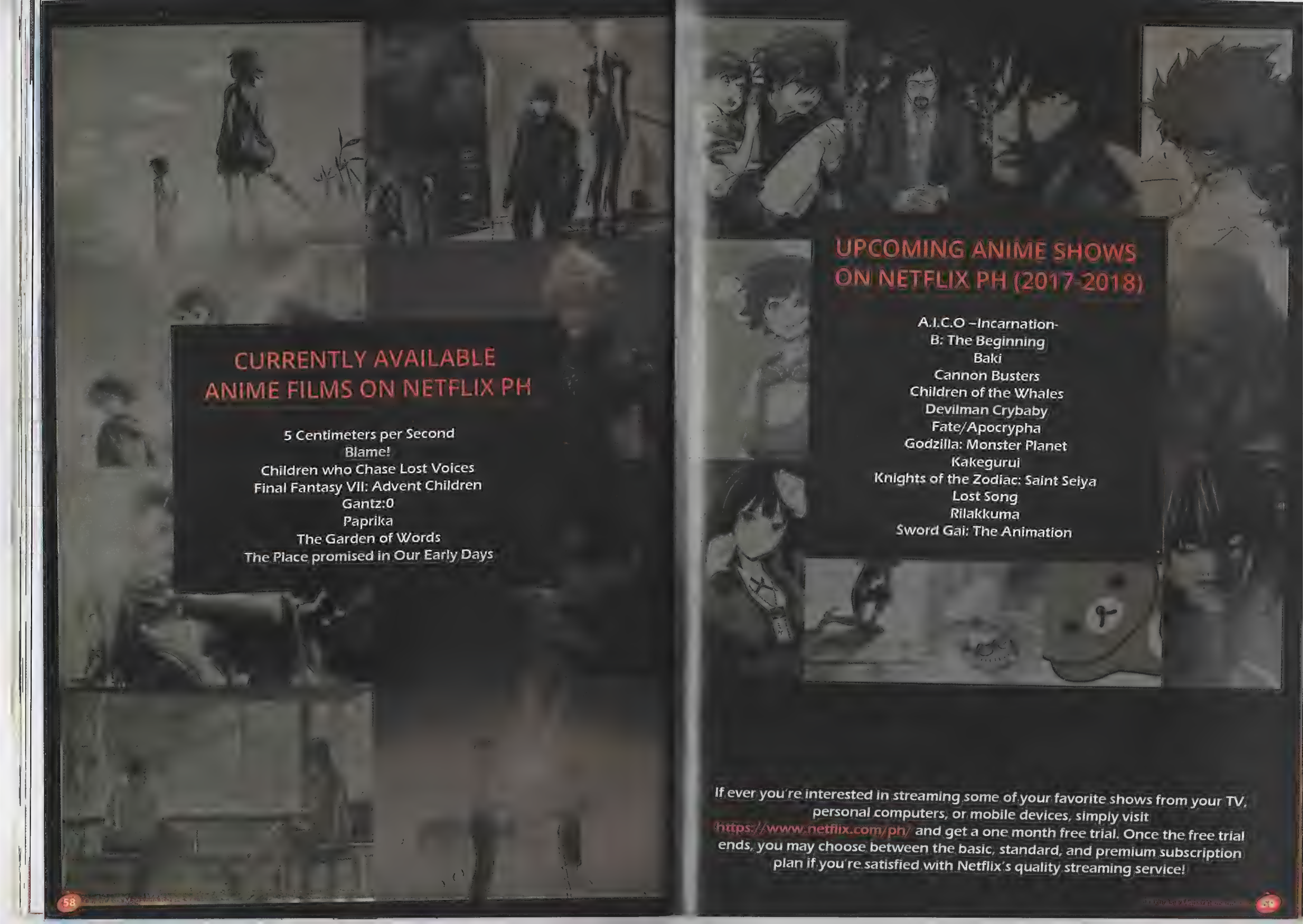
Hey there, Otafans! Did you know that you can now stream some of your favorite anime shows from Netflix?

For those who don't know, Netflix is a subscription-based video on demand streaming service that allows you to watch television series and films via the Netflix website on your desktop, or the Netflix software on a variety of supported platforms, including smartphones, tablets, video game consoles, and smart TVs.

Well then, let's take a look at what Netflix has in store for us.

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ANIME SHOWS ON NETFLIX PH

Air Gear
Ajin: Demi-human
Akame ga Kill
Bleach
Cyborg 009: Call of Justice
Cyborg 009 vs Devilman
Gintama
Ghost Hunt
Gunslinger Girl
Gunslinger Girl: II Teatrino
Haikyuu!!
Kuromukuro
Little Witch Academia
Magi: Adventures of Sinbad
Mushishi
No Game No Life
Rurouni Kenshin
Soul Eater



CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ANIME FILMS ON NETFLIX PH

5 Centimeters per Second
Blame!
Children who Chase Lost Voices
Final Fantasy VII: Advent Children
Gantz:0
Paprika
The Garden of Words
The Place promised in Our Early Days

UPCOMING ANIME SHOWS ON NETFLIX PH (2017-2018)

A.I.C.O –Incarnation-
B: The Beginning
Baki
Cannon Busters
Children of the Whales
Devilman Crybaby
Fate/Apocrypha
Godzilla: Monster Planet
Kakegurui
Knights of the Zodiac: Saint Seiya
Lost Song
Rilakkuma
Sword Gai: The Animation

If ever you're interested in streaming some of your favorite shows from your TV, personal computers, or mobile devices, simply visit <https://www.netflix.com/ph/> and get a one month free trial. Once the free trial ends, you may choose between the basic, standard, and premium subscription plan if you're satisfied with Netflix's quality streaming service!



COVER FEATURE



SHOKUGEKI NO SOMA: SAN NO SARA

by: Mikelle

Competitions are determined and separated by winners and losers. Victory is of course the best outcome one could hope for, whereas defeat is what most people would not only because of the humiliation, but also because of the frustration brought about by losing. Surprisingly, there are unique individuals who take their failure as part of their experience and convert the negative emotions into their own weapon for upcoming challenges. These so-called individuals are called elite losers, and today's main hero happens to be one of those so-called individuals.



Shokugeki no Soma: San no Sara is the third season of the cooking anime Shokugeki no Soma or Food Wars! The series is handled by J.C. Staff studio which first premiered in 2015 followed by the second season release in 2016. OVAs have also been release after each season. The third season is set to air on October 2017 for the Fall 2017 anime lineup. This season's opening theme is Braver by Zaq while the ending theme is Kyokyo Jitsujitsu by Nano Ripe.

The anime series is based on along running manga series written by Tsukuda Yuuto and illustrated by Saeki Shun of the same title and is currently serialized in Weekly Shounen Jump. The manga series began in 2012 and is still ongoing with a total of 26 volumes as of September 2017. The manga first started with one-shot from the golden duo. Yuki Morisaki, a prominent chef who has appeared in various cooking TV shows, provides the dish ideas and recipes for the series. The illustrator, Saeki Shun is also famous

within the doujinshi world by his other penname.

Shokugeki no Soma follows the story of Yukihiro Soma who dreams of surpassing his chef father and to inherit their downtown diner. Upon graduating from middle school, Soma's father suddenly decided to temporarily shut down their restaurant and went overseas while forcing Soma to attend the prestigious Totsuki Culinary Academy known for brutally culling the weak and famed for its 1% graduation rate.

The third season serves a direct sequel of the previous season and ova. Shortly after the Autumn Election finals that resulted in Soma's defeat, the remaining students of Totsuki were returning one by one from their tasked stagiaire from various restaurants for live training. What awaited them are new trials centered around the Elite Ten seats along with a brand new threat.

CHARACTERS

YUKIHIRA SOMA

Soma is the main protagonist of the story. He is the son of Saiba Jouichirou, owner of their family's restaurant and former holder of Totsuki's 2nd seat of the Elite Ten. Soma is among the 92nd generation of Totsuki students and is also a proud member of the Polar Star Dormitory.

Soma's personality is that of a sore loser who's always looking to compete with talented adversaries. He's been competing with his old man since his childhood which always results to Soma's defeat. Due to this consecutive loss, Soma always exudes a competitive attitude which makes him remain calm even in the face of overwhelming odds.



ROAST PORK, JUST KIDDING!



CHALIAPIN STEAK DON

RAVIOLI DI ARAGOSTA



EGGS BENEDICT



NAKIRI ERINA

Erina is one of the story's heroines. Like Soma, she belongs to the same generation but is already the youngest member of the Elite Ten who currently holds the 10th seat.

Erina possesses the special ability called God's Tongue which is considered as the best palate in the world. Her taste buds are extremely sensitive which allows her to discern flaws in countless dishes which even first class chefs had been victimized by her mercilessness. Due to her unique gift, vast wealth and culinary knowledge; Erina has made her name within the culinary world and shows great potential of reaching the top.



CHARACTERS

TADOKORO MEGUMI



Megumi is one of Soma's classmates and also a fellow resident of the Polar Star Dorm. She is very shy, timid and easily gets intimidated by others. She was once treated as a dunce and a fodder by many but her actual talent in cooking is on par with the talents of the new generation which she proved when she claimed a spot in the Autumn Elections main tournament. Megumi's forte is seafood and vegetable cuisines as she hails from a port town. She also displays good hospitality to her patrons which befits her family business that runs an inn.

MITO IKUMI



Ikumi or nicknamed as Nikumi is Soma's first opponent in an official Shokugeki and later becomes one of his most trusted allies. Nikumi is famous for being the best in handling meat and for bringing A5 meat, the best grade meat in the market, as her main ingredient earning her the title of Meat Master.

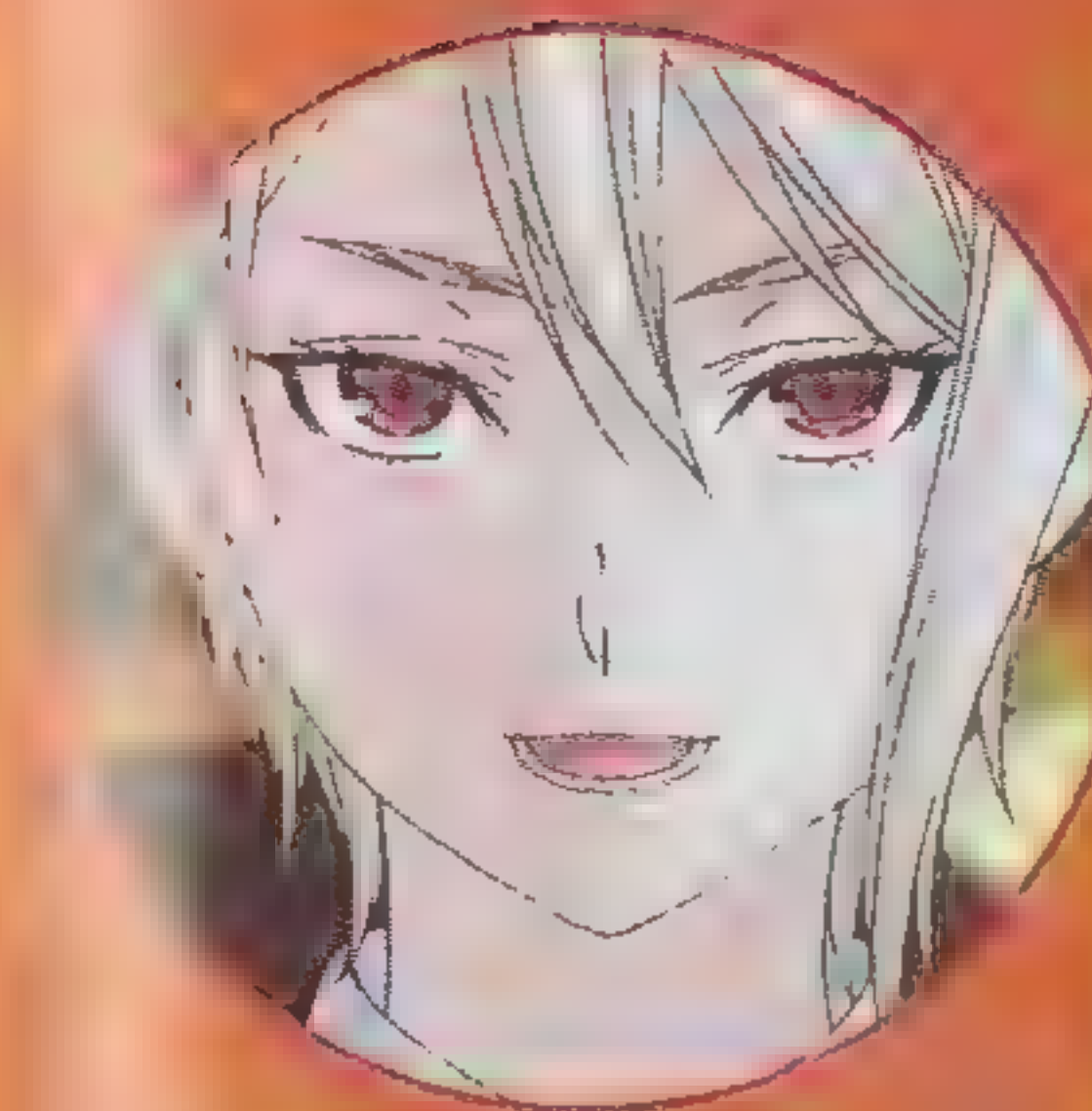
TAKUMI ALDINI



Takumi and Isami Aldini are twin brothers and who grew up and runs a family owned restaurant in Italy. They were both encouraged by their uncle to go to Japan in order to challenge the famous Totsuki Culinary Academy.

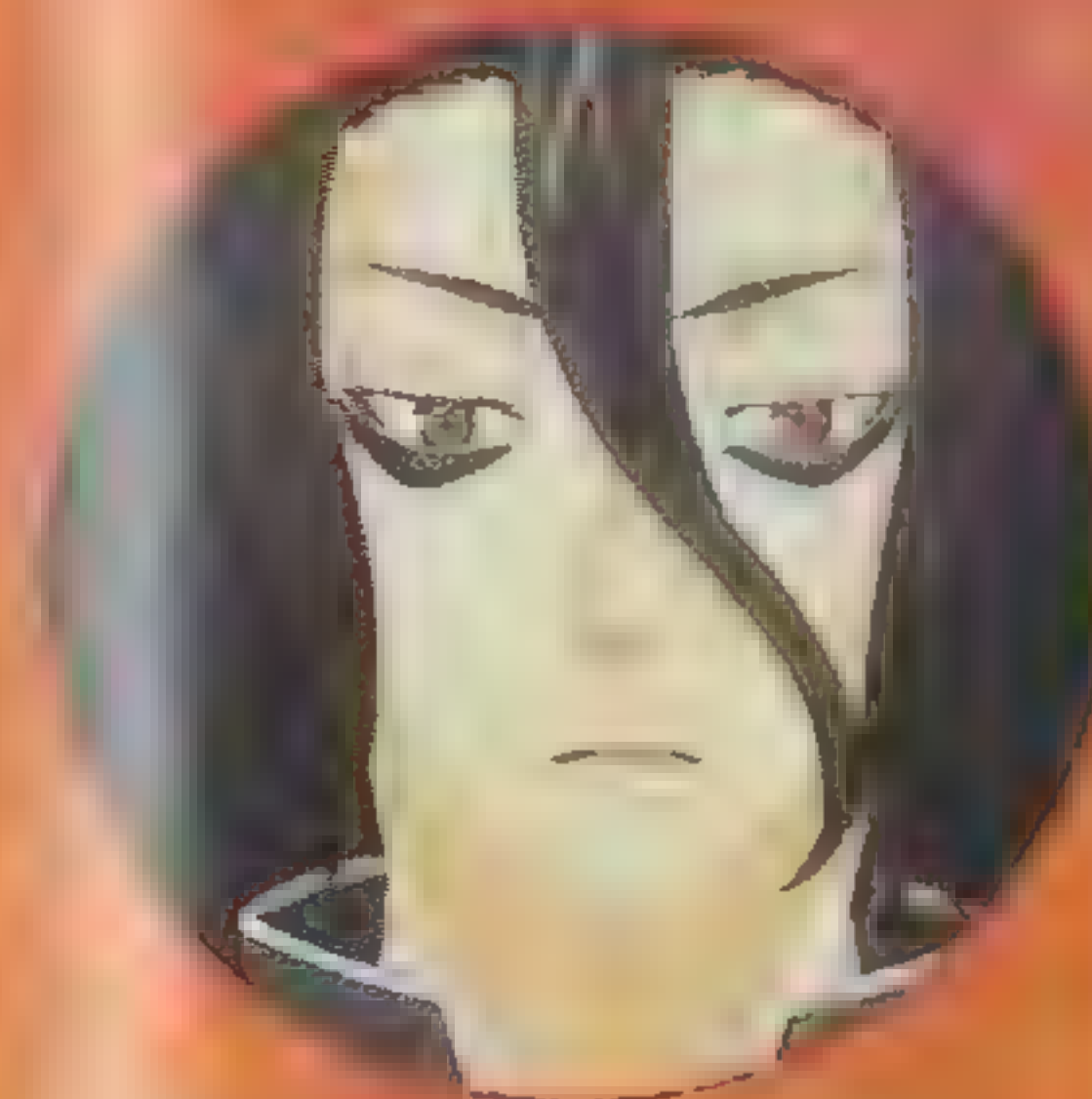
Takumi is also Soma's self-proclaimed rivals who always issue a challenge to him whenever the circumstance allows him to. Much like Soma, Takuma also has the same personality of being a sore loser and also has the experience with serving live customers due to their family business.

NAKIRI ALICE



Alice is also a member of the prestigious Nakiri family and is Erina's cousin. She considers herself part of the elite due to her pedigree but is actually quite friendly especially to those people who she considers interesting. Alice is an expert in molecular gastronomy which she displays throughout her dishes. Her cooking style is quoted to be like watching a scientist perform chemistry due to the use of cutting-edge tools which produces exquisitely beautiful cuisines.

KUROKIBA RYOU



Ryou serves as Alice's aide due to his consecutive loss to her during their childhood. He normally displays a lazy and gloomy demeanor but his personality does a complete 180 degree turn when he is cooking and puts on his trademark bandana. He refers to his mad dog-like personality as berserk mode which also reflects upon the dishes he makes.

HISAKO ARATO



Hisako or mostly known as Hishoko serves as Erina's secretary. Her talent lies with medicinal cooking which she has fully displayed during the Autumn Elections. Hisako formerly aims to always be with Erina follow behind her as her trusted aide, but now she aims to walk beside Erina as her childhood friend with some help from Soma. She initially displays an aggressive attitude towards Soma but later turns into trust and admiration.

AKIRA HAYAMA



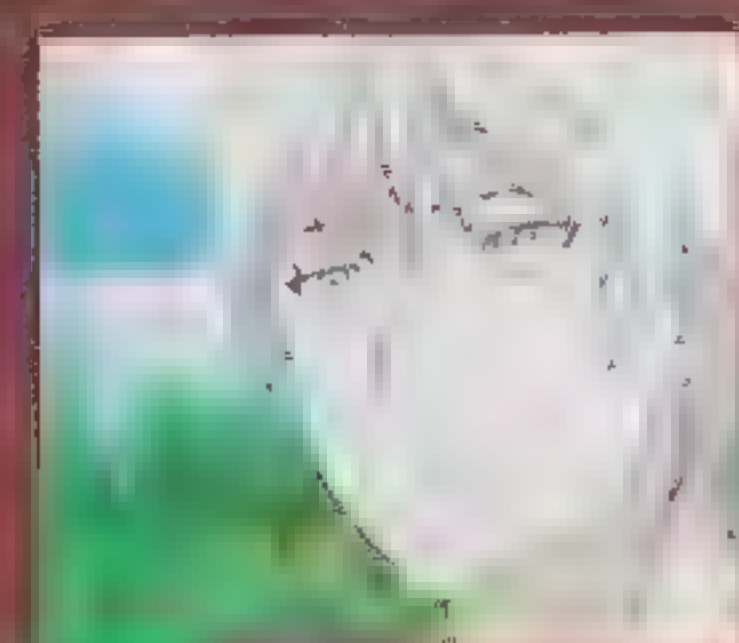
Hayama specializes with using spices that stimulates his patron's appetites. He also wields an incredible sense of smell which is said to have the potential of matching the God's Tongue. Hayama was also Soma and Ryou's fellow finalist during the Autumn Election Finals which resulted to Hayama's victory.

TOTSUKI'S ELITE TEN



The Elite Ten is the most prestige group within the academy comprised of the most talented individuals who've displayed their talents and skill throughout countless battles. The members are given authorities that are second only to the academy's director, Nakiri Senzaemon. Most of the events and major arcs of the story are centered on the Elite Ten.

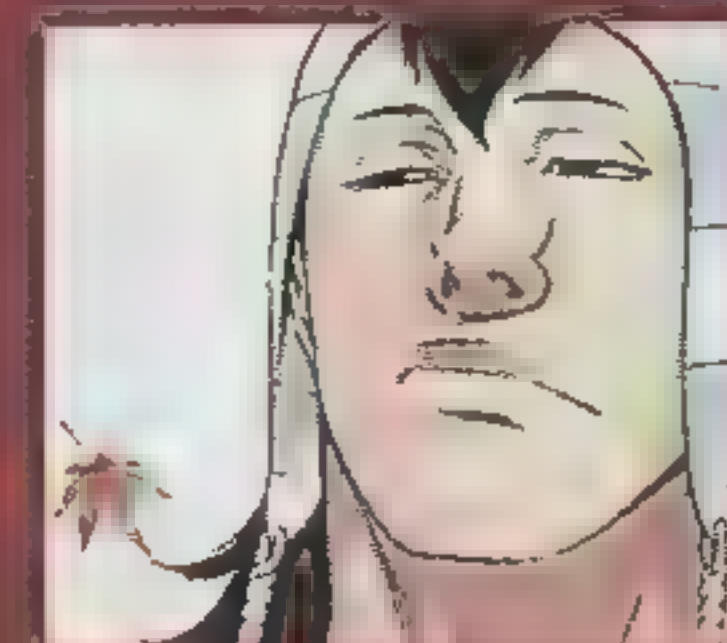
CURRENT MEMBERS



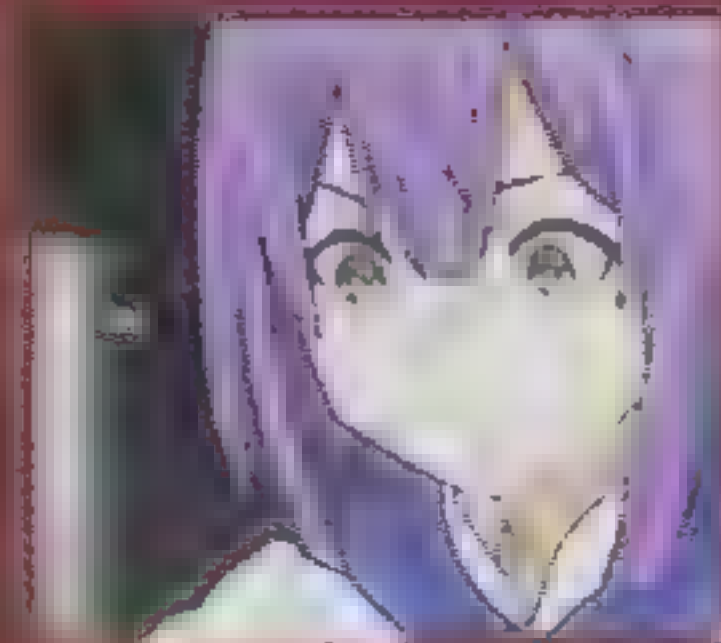
1st Seat
Tsukasa Eishi



2nd Seat
Kobayashi Rindou



3rd Seat
Megishima Tousuke



4th Seat
Akanegakubo Momo



5th Seat
Saitou Soumei



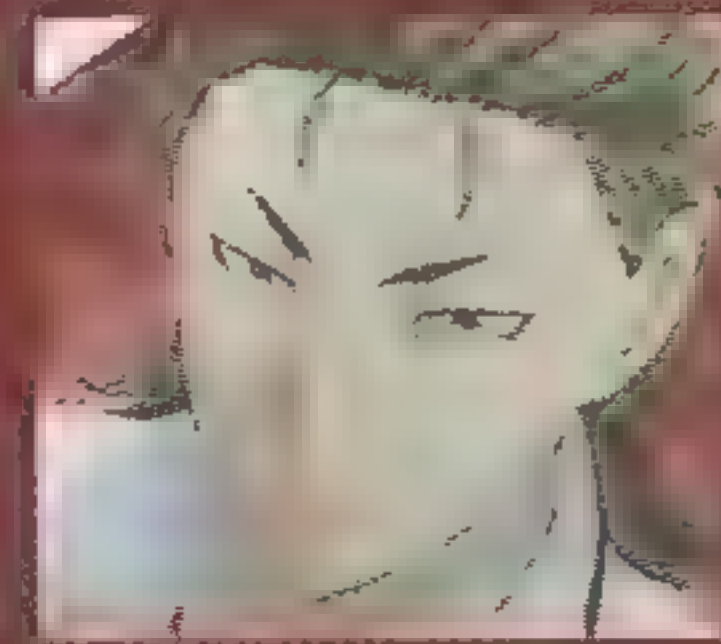
6th Seat
Kinokuni Nene



7th Seat
Isshiki Satoshi



8th Seat
Kuga Terunori



9th Seat
Eizan Etsuya



10th Seat
Nakiri Erina

Mister Ajikko, Cooking Master Boy, Yakitate Japan and now Shokugeki no Soma, this series is only one of the rare cooking anime that exist. All the other series' had captured the heart of its viewers and had become a landmark in the anime industry. Shokugeki no Soma shows great potential as it carries the expectations of fans and viewer around the globe. If you are hungry for a good anime to follow this season, be sure to consider this series as it would surely sate your appetite.



RAINBOW TERRINE



ROAST PORK, JUST KIDDING!



SALMON COULOBIA



CHOU FARCI



MINI SOUFFLÉ OMELETTE



CHEESE-FEATHERED
HANETSUKI GYOZA



CHARACTER BIO

by Mikelle

Rider of Black

ASTOLFO



Servant Class: Rider
Alignment: Chaotic Good
Origin: Charlemagne Legend
Current Master:
Celenike Icecolle Yggdmillennia
Gender: Male?
Likes: The whole world
Voice Actor: Ookubo Rum

Astolfo is one of the Rider Class servants summoned during the Great Holy Grail war under the Black Faction. Despite her master being a huge sadist, Astolfo still exudes a cheerful and overwhelmingly positive attitude toward his peers and foes alike. He acts based on instinct and eternal optimism which is on par with his eccentricity. Beautiful beyond compare, as he was describe in legends, Astolfo's current appearance could certainly confuse others and may lead to misunderstandings.

Astolfo is a character from the Carolingian Cycle, originating from Charlemagne Legends as a member of the Twelve Paladins of Charlemagne in addition of being a Prince of England. He had created many legends thru his journey as an adventurer known for flying all over the world and eventually reaches the Moon. Astolfo was actually famed as being "weak" in legends but the Noble Phantasms he acquired during his adventures are by no means "weak". His weapons and tools are extremely powerful making his count as a valuable asset in the Great Grail War.

As a person who never regrets anything he does Astolfo spearheads into the fray in search of thrill and excitement. But if push comes to shove, he is prepared to make sacrifice in order to save and protect those he hold dear. Follow this heroic spirit and find out how he fares during the Great Grail War in Fate/Apocrypha.

YOSHINOYA

Sukiyaki

Japanese hot pot dish served with udon, green beans, chinese cabbage, tofu, enoki mushroom, carrots, & beef slices



WE DELIVER

288-2888



SM MANILA SM MALL OF ASIA SM MEGAMALL SM NORTH EDSA SM FAIRVIEW SM SOUTHMALL
SM SEASIDE CITY CEBU SM CITY CEBU GLORIETTA ROBINSONS GALLERIA VALERO MAKATI FAIRVIEW TERRACES



REVIEWS

KAKEGURUI

by James

Gambling is arguably the worst hobby, if it can be called as such, that people get themselves into. The lucky ones lost a few thousands, and those who aren't as fortunate lost their fortune, and even their sanity. In one particular anime series, however, losing in gambling doesn't make you crazy, because those who gamble are already straight-up insane in the first place. How many are these people? It's an entire school of them. Follow the lives of these devious and decadent gambling-obsessed deviant teens in Kakegurui.

Fittingly and roughly translated in English as "Gambling Addict", Kakegurui is set in Hyakkou Academy, an elite school where almost everything is all about gambling. It's the students' favorite pastime, and even *raison d'être*. It's the rule of the campus. Anything and everything can be decided with it; anyone can challenge anybody to it. And whatever the game may be, the conditions are simple: if the loser succumbs into debt, he or she becomes the winner's "pet", an indebted slave. Last but definitely not least, cheating is allowed as long as it's not caught. This makes Hyakkou Academy a gambling battleground where one's wiles, mettle, and luck are constantly tested.

Ensuring that the school remains a chaotic quasi-casino is the Student Council. Opulent and influential schemers and cheaters, no one has yet to take them on, save for Yumeko Jyabami. A girl who has an ill sister and loads of cash despite having no connections, she gets off on making the craziest of bets with the most cunning of opponents - including the student council itself - and come out winning! So, why engage in a high-risk high-roller uphill gambling battle: To flip the hierarchical and oppressive status quo. Now every student who isn't rooting for her is afraid

of her. If she can beat the teens of society's upper echelons, then the rule of the rich and powerful is threatened.

From the premise and plot alone, it's already obvious that Kakegurui thrives on many things that are over-the-top. Perhaps the most fitting of this description is the colorful cast is comprised of one or two dull characters, more douche bags and eccentrics, and even more psychos. Their motivations are also entertaining enough to get and keep you interested and invested in them. And while it's easy to be on Team Yumeko and just as easy to hate on the brutish school bullies, it's easier to be fascinated with the all-sorts-of-mental Student Council than be pissed with them.

The painstakingly detailed and stylized art and heart-stopping tension in the atmosphere during gambles make the show feel like a cross between No Game No Life and Death Note. It takes the viewer's breaths away with the gorgeous visuals, and to the edge of your seats with these kids' fate-determining games of chance.

Speaking of which, the underlying themes of fate - either the self-determination or the elite's dictation of it, as well as the anti-elite agenda - runs subtly yet palpably in the show. And gambling is used as a fittingly perfect plot device to illustrate the struggle against the metaphysical and social powers that be.

Stunning, nail-biting, and tastefully edgy, Kakegurui is at the very least unique, and at most a wild ride that pushes the envelope of gambling-themed anime in so many ways. Regardless of whether you'll follow or drop it, Yumeko's life and times in Hyakkou Academy is one of the best releases this 2017, and therefore a must-try.



KEKKAI SENSEN & BEYOND

by Reikisha



A gateway between Earth and the Beyond opened in New York City three years ago, transforming the city into a paranormal melting pot where magic and madness dwell alongside the mundane. The busiest city in America has been renamed to "Hellsalem's Lot"—a place where both humans and otherworldly creatures will commit heinous crimes for earthly desires. Since that day, a secret organization called Libra was formed in order to prevent the horrors of the city from spreading to the rest of the world.

Leonardo Watch and the guys from Libra will be back in Hellsalem's Lot after a long hiatus from fighting monsters and terrorists! Be sure to follow their misadventures once again for more action-packed crimefighting in the strangest place on Earth.

Kekkai Sensen & Beyond is the sequel to the 2015 TV anime adaptation by Studio Bones. There will be an advanced screening of the first episode at Toho Cinemas Roppongi Hills on September 30, 2017. The series is scheduled to run for 12 episodes starting from October 8, 2017.

Opening Theme: Fake Town Baby by UNISON SQUARE GARDEN

Ending Theme: Step Up LOVE (ステップアップLOVE) by Daiko x Yasuyuki Okamura



DIES IRAE

by Reikisha



On May 1, 1945 in Berlin, as the Red Army raises the Soviet flag over the Reich Chancellery, a group of Nazi officers performed a ritual using the lives lost in the war as a sacrifice for their spell. Their goal was to bring back the Longinus Dreizehn Orden—superhuman harbingers of the world's demise. Nobody knows if this group of officers succeeded or not.

Sixty years later, the Longinus Dreizehn Orden makes their appearance in Suwahara City. Ren Fujii was supposed to lead an ordinary life after his two-month hospitalization, but the Orden's presence in the city made it impossible for him.

Dies Irae is an anime adaptation of the visual novel created by Light. The company launched a crowdfunding campaign to create a pilot episode for Dies Irae, and took in 100 million yen. Because of that, the anime adaptation will have a total of 18 episodes (12 episodes for the first cour and 8 episodes for 2018) starting from October 7, 2017.

Opening Theme: Kadenz by Yui Sakakibara

Ending Theme: Opera (オペラ) by Phero☆Men



JUST BECAUSE!

by Reikisha

At the end of the second semester of third year of high school, four students are prepared for graduation and feel the ending to their high school life. But that changes a little with the arrival of a transfer student.

Just Because! is an upcoming original anime project by Pine Jam Studio, the same animation studio that brought us Getsuyoubi no Tawawa. This original series is a collaboration between Himura Kiseki, otherwise known as Strangestone, and Hajime Kashimoda, the author of Sakurasou no Pet na Kanojo. Its first episode will be aired on October 5, 2017.

Opening Theme: Over and Over by Nagi Yanagi

Ending Theme: Behind by Karin Isobe, Yuna Yoshino, and Lynn



Elta Izumi (CV: Aoi Ichikawa)

Elta is a transfer student who used to live from the town where Mio and the others lived for four years. He was a close friend of Haruto from middle school.



Mio Natsume (CV: Karin Isobe)

She was Haruto and Elta's classmate during middle school. Mio originally plans to study at a well-known university, but her unrequited feelings are influencing some of her choices.



Haruto Souma (CV: Taishi Murata)

A third-year high school student and member of the baseball team. Haruto was able to secure a job to take after graduation. His current goals are to hit a home run and confess his feelings to the girl he likes.



Hatsuki Morikawa (CV: Yuna Yoshino)

Hatsuki is a former member of the brass band club who avoids being conspicuous and is uninterested about love. She is determined to get into her chosen university after graduation.



Ena Komiya (CV: Lynn)

She's a second year student and a member of the photography club. Ena joins a photography competition to prevent her club from being abolished.



KONOHANATEI KITAN

by James



Slice-of-life anime with an all-girl social circle as its main cast has become a mainstay. We've had music clubs, anime clubs, kendo clubs, and even a game studio. So, how about an anime that follows the same cast composition and laidback pace, except this time in a fantasy setting? A bath house for yokai to be exact. And this time around, the bathhouse girls aren't your regular girls. They're fox girls – kind of like cat girls, only better. Watch these hardworking souls strut their tails off (pun intended) in Konohanatei Kitan.

Based on a manga of the same name by Amano Sakuya, Konohanatei Kitan is set in the eponymous bathhouse, which in turn is found in a village inhabited by yokai. Aside from being a famed sanctuary for all sorts of creatures of Japanese folklore, it's also where Yuzu, a young fox girl, will be working for the first time in her life. Will she be able to do a good job? With the help of her adoptive mother Bikune, and her new fellow fox colleagues Kiri, Satsuki, Natsume, and Ren, she undoubtedly will.

When it comes to the basic premise, there isn't much to be said, as it's your usual "girl in new club/job" story. So instead, Konohanatei Kitan makes it up in the way its all-girl core ensemble treats our new girl lead. Compared to

other anime of this subgenre - if the "purely female org/workplace" convention can already be called as such - Yuzu's fellow employees are a bit colder than her. Not punishingly so, but there's still a sense of aloofness towards Yuzu. In fact, how this minor alienation will dissipate through time is a plot point that allows the show to draw a line whenever it's being compared to the likes of New Gao.

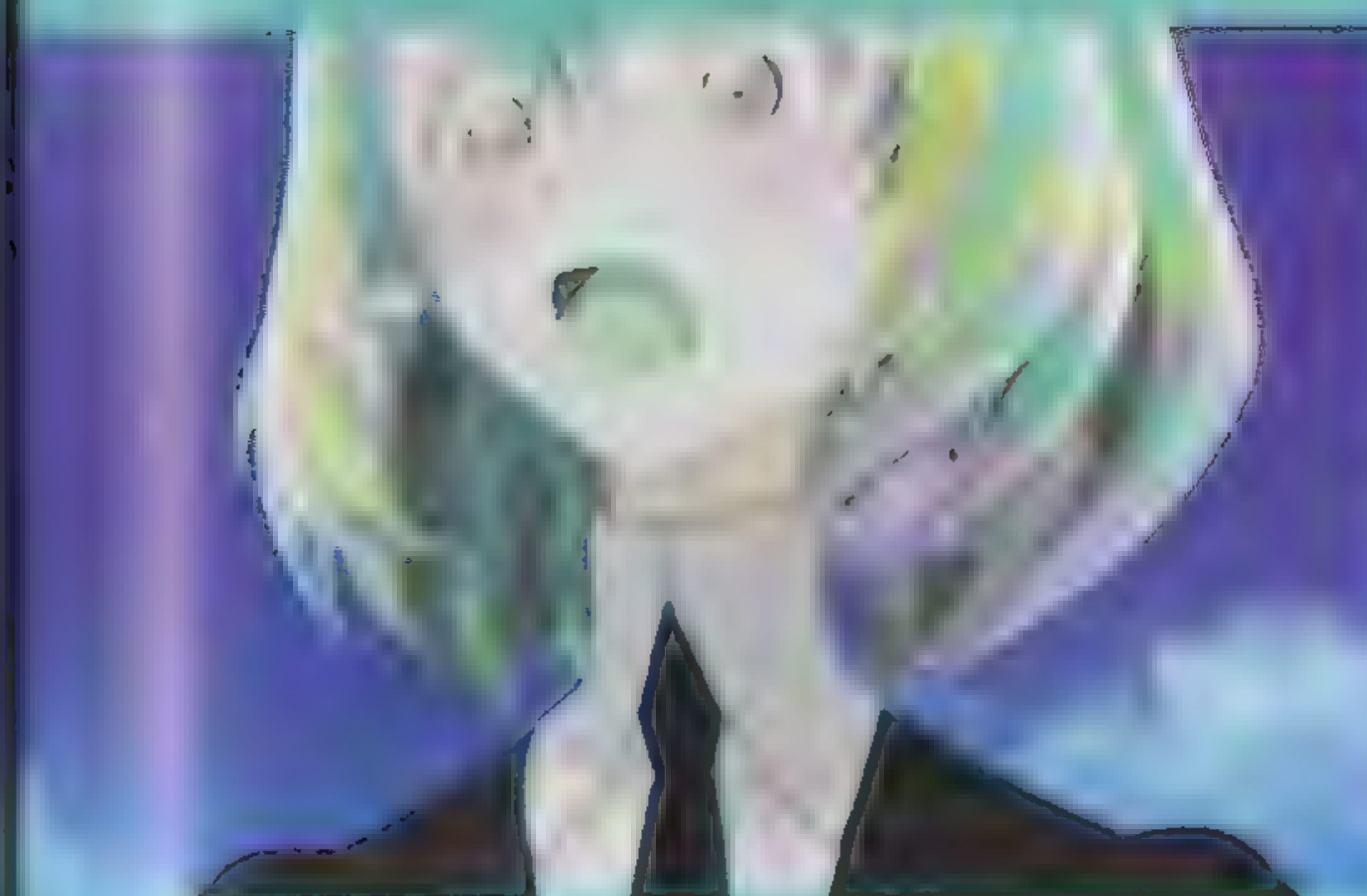
Konohanatei Kitan sets itself apart with its supernatural setting and its chill and mysterious, magical tone and atmosphere. The art, with its typical mecha art style for the characters, bright pastel color palette, and use of traditional Japanese aesthetics, also establishes a sense of softness, etherealness, and identity in the anime. In a way, it's like a cross between Spirited Away and Working!!!. This makes Konohanatei Kitan a great addition to Lerche's ever-growing list of impressive works, joining the ranks of Assassination Classroom and Danganronpa.

Many parts tried-and-tested and just as many parts unique, Konohanatei Kitan is an anime for those that want the usual all-girl crew anime with an enchanted twist, a bit more drama of the good kind, and just as much happy working girls.



HOUSEKI NO KUNI

by kaddy



This is an anime that was recommended to me by my brother. Afterwards, I got my sister to watch. If we try hard enough, we might get dad to watch as well. *It's that great.* There is a gem cartoon ongoing but this anime was adapted from a manga that started in October 2012, earlier than said cartoon. The manga published by Kodansha was written by Haruko Ichikawa and currently has eight (8) volumes.

Land of the Lustrous is where gems take the shape of immortal people. Their gem qualities remain just like how Diamond is strong but fragile on impact, Cinnabar has mercury in them and how Phosphophyllite (Phos) is very weak with the hardness of 3.5. They may break or shatter but as long as the shards are complete, they can be put back together. They are gems and do not reproduce so they don't have genders. Please always use "they" or neutral pronoun rather than he or she.

Phos was "born" more recently than the rest of the gems and is very weak or

brittle. Their personality is very headstrong, honest and outspoken. Many times it was mentioned that Phos is the only one to have the guts to talk back to Master Kongo, their leader. Phos was given the task to write an encyclopedia but will they actually do it?

The answer is no. Phos will never get around to doing that one thing. I fell in love with their personality right off the bat and you would surely do as well. Though the first episode may throw you off because it leaves many things unexplained, wait till you get to the last episode where you find yourself crying and holding on to dear life.

The scene framing is beautiful; the characters are beautiful **EVEN THE ENEMIES, LUNARIANS ARE GODDAMN BEAUTIFUL.** It really is Lustrous. Just as you thought that 3D anime can only go as far as Knight of Sidonia and Ajin, we get this from studio Orange who brought us Dimension W. Beautiful. Lustrous. The manga is also ongoing so feel free to check that out too!



Our favorite Himouto returns to give us laughs and entertainment with the antics of her everyday life! I'm sure you missed Umaru Doma and her three different personas; a popular school girl, the renowned gamer UMR and a lazy otaku who loves bossing around her big brother.

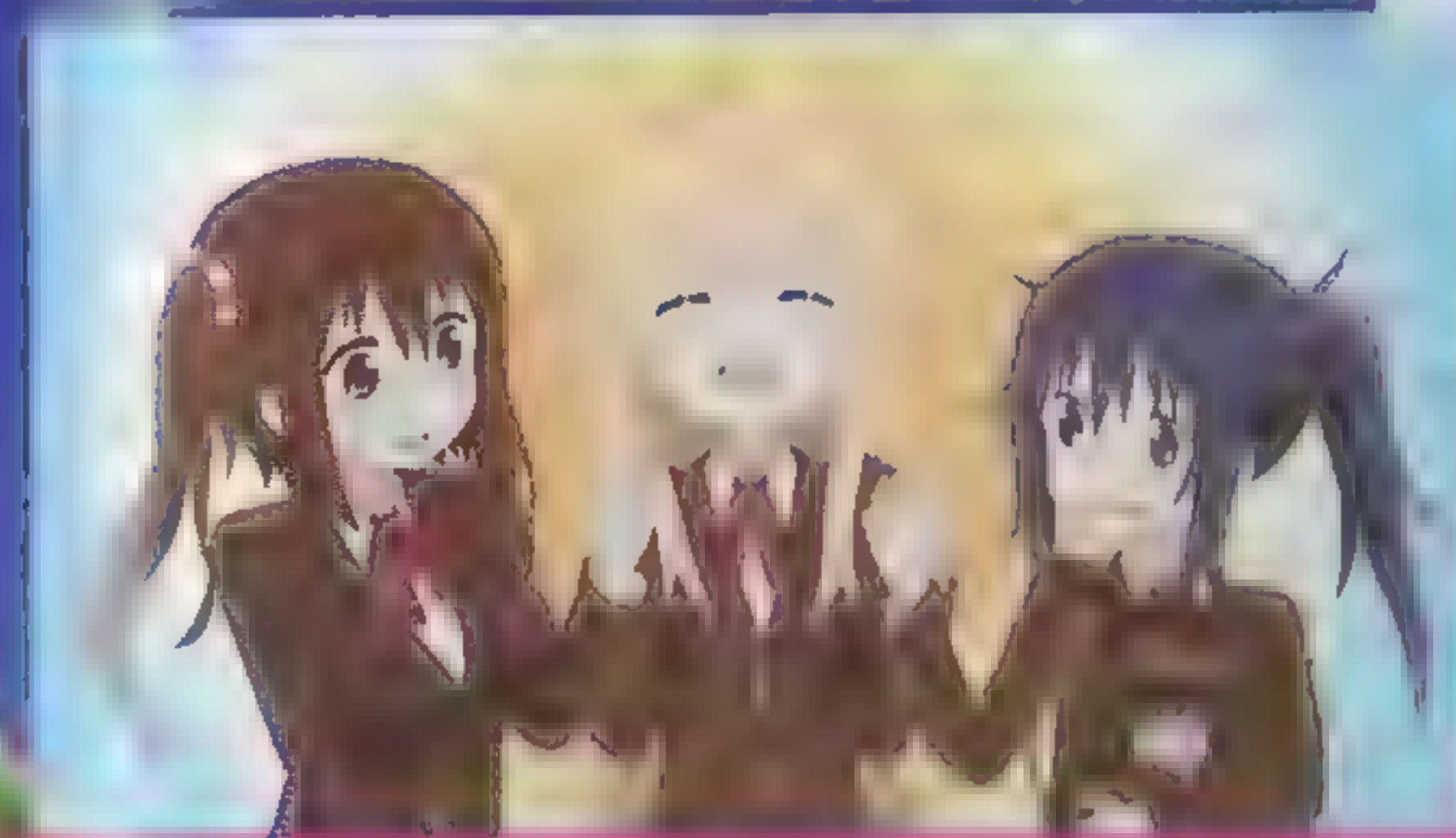
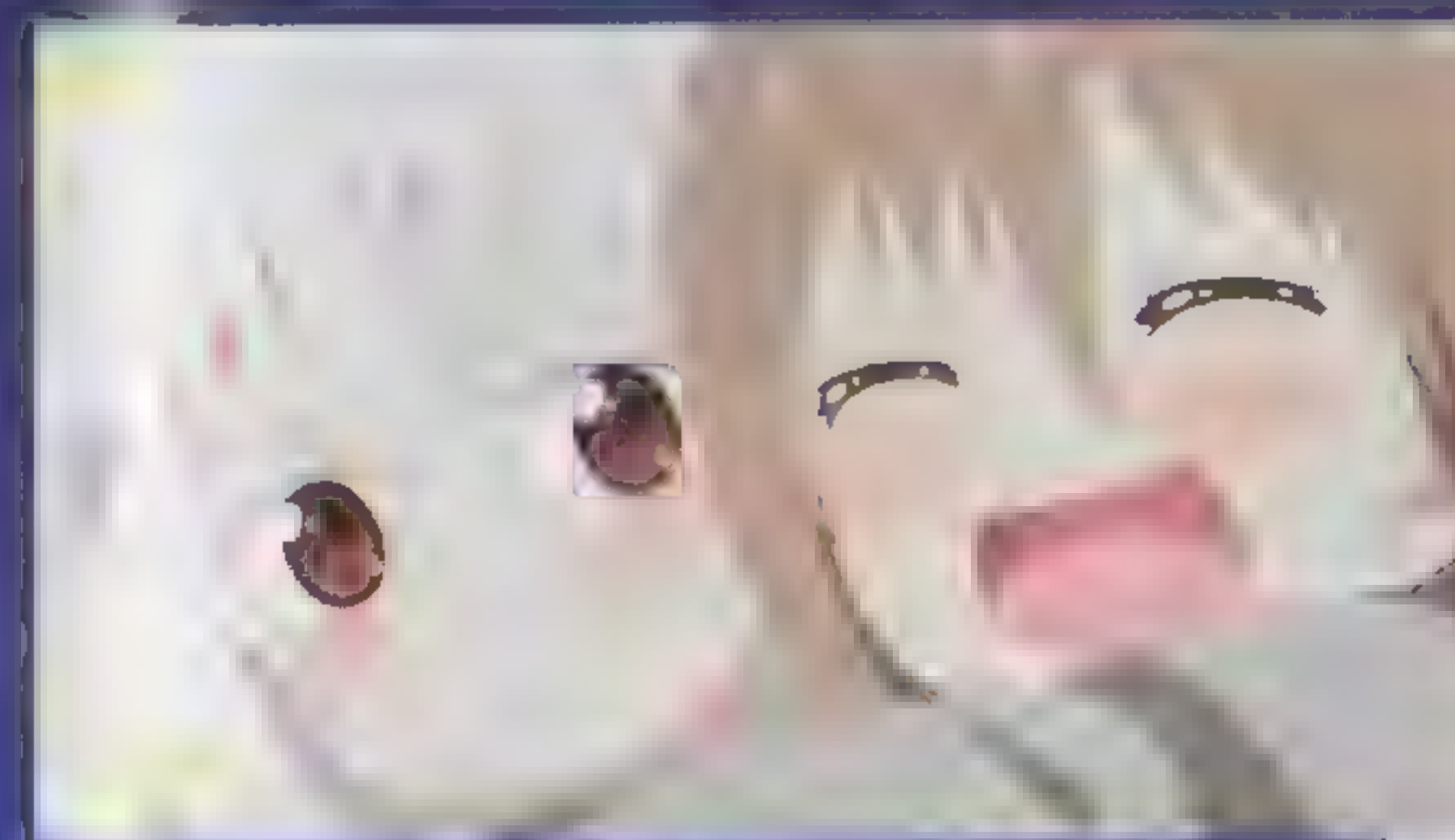
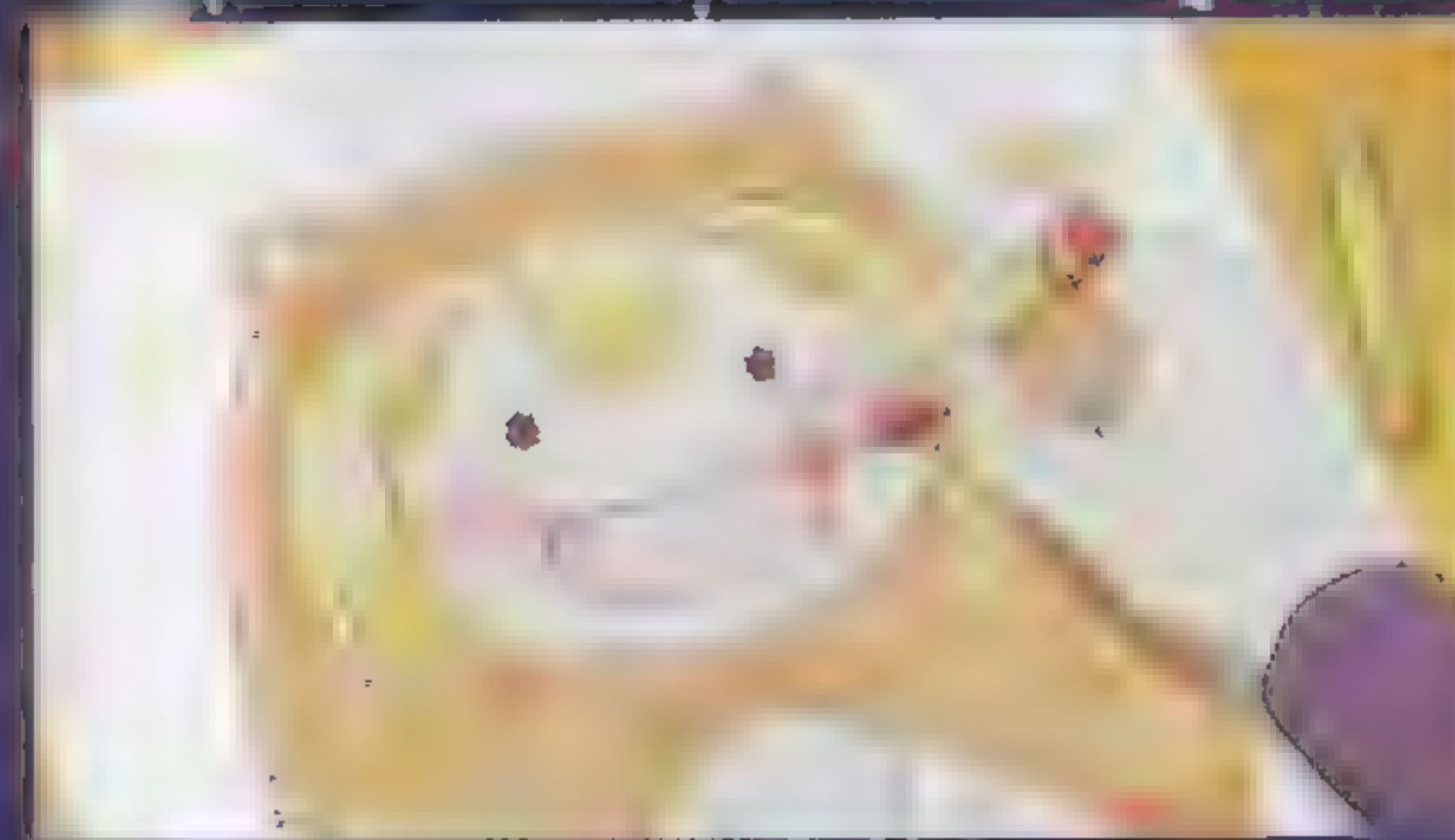
干物妹！うまるちゃんR

No one would usually think that these three personas would belong to one person and the last person you would suspect to have these personalities would be Umaru. She's known at school since she is the top student like her brother. She befriended Ebina Nana with this personality.

She's actually a lazy person at home; loves to boss around her brother and is badly an otaku. This personality is only known to his brother and her classmate, Kirei Matoba whom she befriended posing as "Komaru"; Umaru's little sister.

Her third persona is as UMR. She is feared in arcade centers because she's too good with the games like the crane game which will make the store owners cry in defeat. She befriended her classmate Sylphynford Tachibana with this persona since they are both otakus.

Himouto! Umaru-chan R is the 2nd season of the series Himouto! Umaru-chan that directed by Masahiko Ohta and written by Takashi Aishima under Doga Kobo. The second season has a total of 12 episodes.



Umaru has befriended many people with her different personas. Even though these are different personas, it represents her different side which is why she cherishes every friendship she made with it. Even though that she bosses her brother around, she also has a caring side and shows how she love her big brother deeply.

I'm sure most of us can relate with Umaru's personality because she is an otaku especially with lazing around the house and having different collections like figures, manga and even gaming consoles. Well season 2 is here now so what are we waiting for? Let's join Umaru once again with her adventures on Himouto Umaru-Chan R!





恋風は夏の前の
吉田基己が贈る

Under the Fox's Spell

article by: Kahlua

It was but a short fateful encounter, but he knew right away. That night, he fell in love.

One festival night, middle-aged Narumi Rokurou asked a fortune teller to read into his career's future. Instead though, he got a reading about his love life which is seemingly empty for him at that moment.

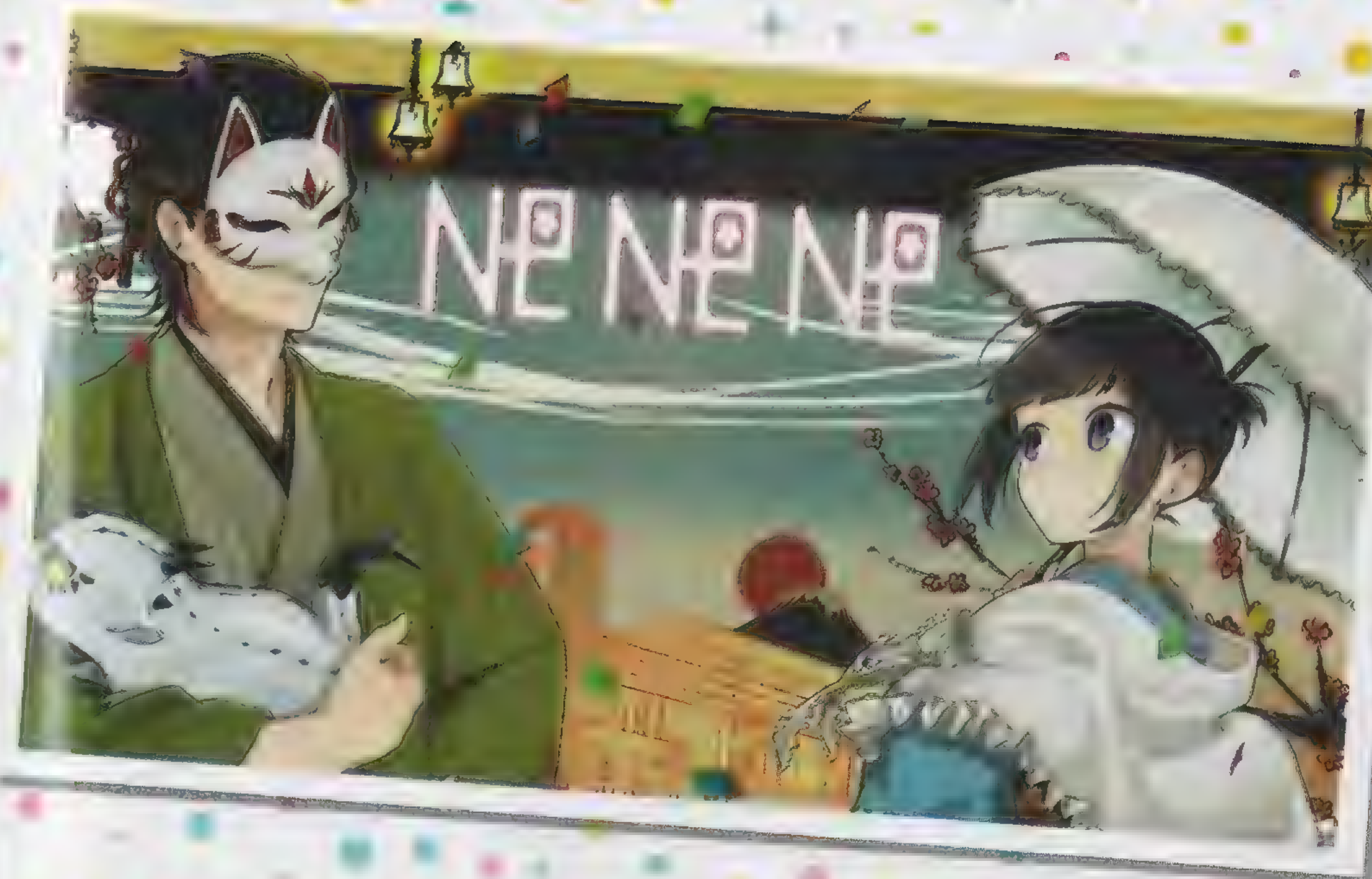
"You have nothing to worry about. This love will surely blossom."

He didn't believe it when he heard it, but as if proving the cards right, Rokurou met this beautiful young lady that very same night. The mysterious lady tripped into him and had to help her. No words were spoken, but the look on both of their eyes speaks about everything. Both of them were enchanted. Days thereafter, despite knowing that he might never see the lady again, he can't help but think about the lady she fell in love with in one night.

With currently one volume released, Kannou Sensei is a masterpiece by Yoshida Motoi published by Kodansha in the Evening magazine. It was released just last 2016 and fans are expecting more of the coming volumes in the future. This manga is adult themed and is targeted to readers age 18 above.

First thing to be commended in this series is the art style, for there is a sweet balance between the dramatic and comedic parts of the pages. The story, moreover, shows just the right amount of maturity, and will actually keep you engaged on how the protagonist would be able to capture the lady, who is portrayed to be a beautiful mystery.

Rokurou meets the lady again, but she denies their encounter on that special night. Will he be able to get through this lady's heart?



DON'T WORRY, WE'LL GET INTO THERE

article by: Kahlua

Despite the large age gap, Koyuki, 16, and Shin, 37, were married in order to benefit both their families. Funnily though, they are both inexperienced when it comes to love. Koyuki is too young of course, while Shin has a special circumstance of not being around with people that much because of his job. He spends most of his time dealing with supernatural creatures due to the nature of his work. They now live together as husband and wife, but how will they be a real married couple when Shin is not allowed to be physically involved with his wife until she turns 20?

Nenene is a completed manga with only one volume released written by Otousan and illustrated by Hagiwara Daisuke. It was published in 2016 by Square Enix in Gangan Online magazine, and was also English licensed by Yen Press.

It was a short read, but the couple is so cute and fluffy that it would make you hope that they could add more volumes to this series. After all, Shin's face behind his mask was yet to be revealed. It is more about the everyday life of the couple, nothing grave and heavy, thus it is fun to read all throughout. Surely a smile will be painted on your face all the while when you read it.

See how Shin deals with his overly cute wife everyday!





A King by Name and Talent

article by: Kahlua

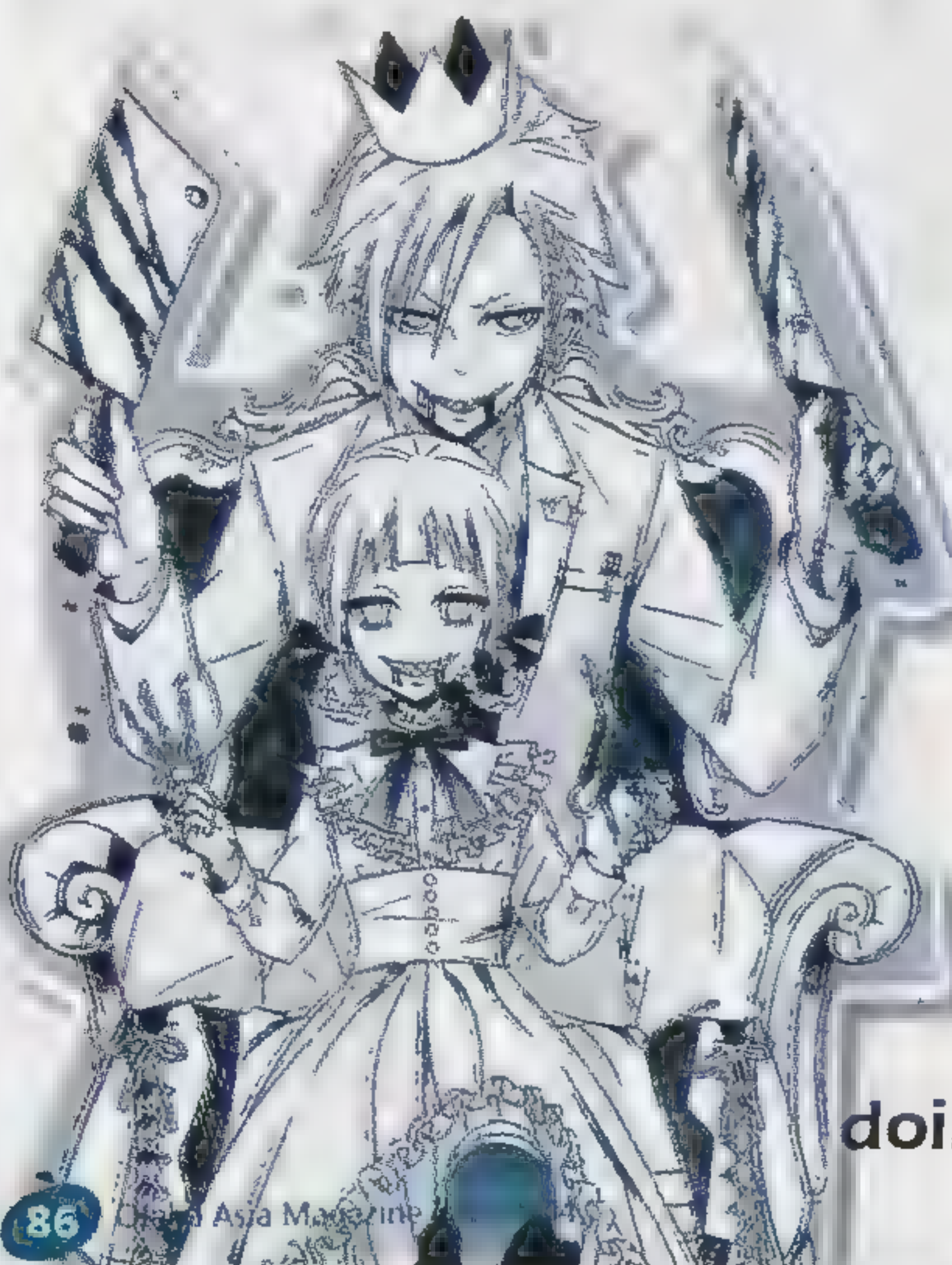
Eccentric. This probably is the best way to describe the scientists living at "King Laboratory", a science lab established by their head chief Shiva King. Together with three other scientists he personally recruited and a female robot he made, Shiva is conducting a research about humans. He openly mentioned that his ultimate dream is to make his own artificial human.

Now that sounded so dark and evil doesn't it? Oddly enough, they are the protagonists and are therefore not as bad as they seem to be. That is why they are better described as eccentric, for they are good-natured but with peculiar obsession for human research. Most especially King, who acts like an idiot most of the time but is actually a super genius scientist.

One night, the culprit of the serial killings that is happening around their area paid a visit to the King Lab. Though he intended to kill the residents of the building, he instead found himself bloody in the hands of these scientists. What could they have possibly discovered with this notorious murderer?

Published by Square Enix in 2016, *Hakui no Ousama* (King in a Lab Coat) is a comedy, sci-fi, shounen manga written by Ayase Retsu. There are currently three volumes and is still ongoing. Apparently, this is the first published work of Ayase-sensei and surely this proved that his/her future works will be worth anticipated to.

This research was his dream, but in the hands of the wrong people, it creates evil doings. How will the King Lab deal with these?



From Maiko To Cook

article by: Kahlua

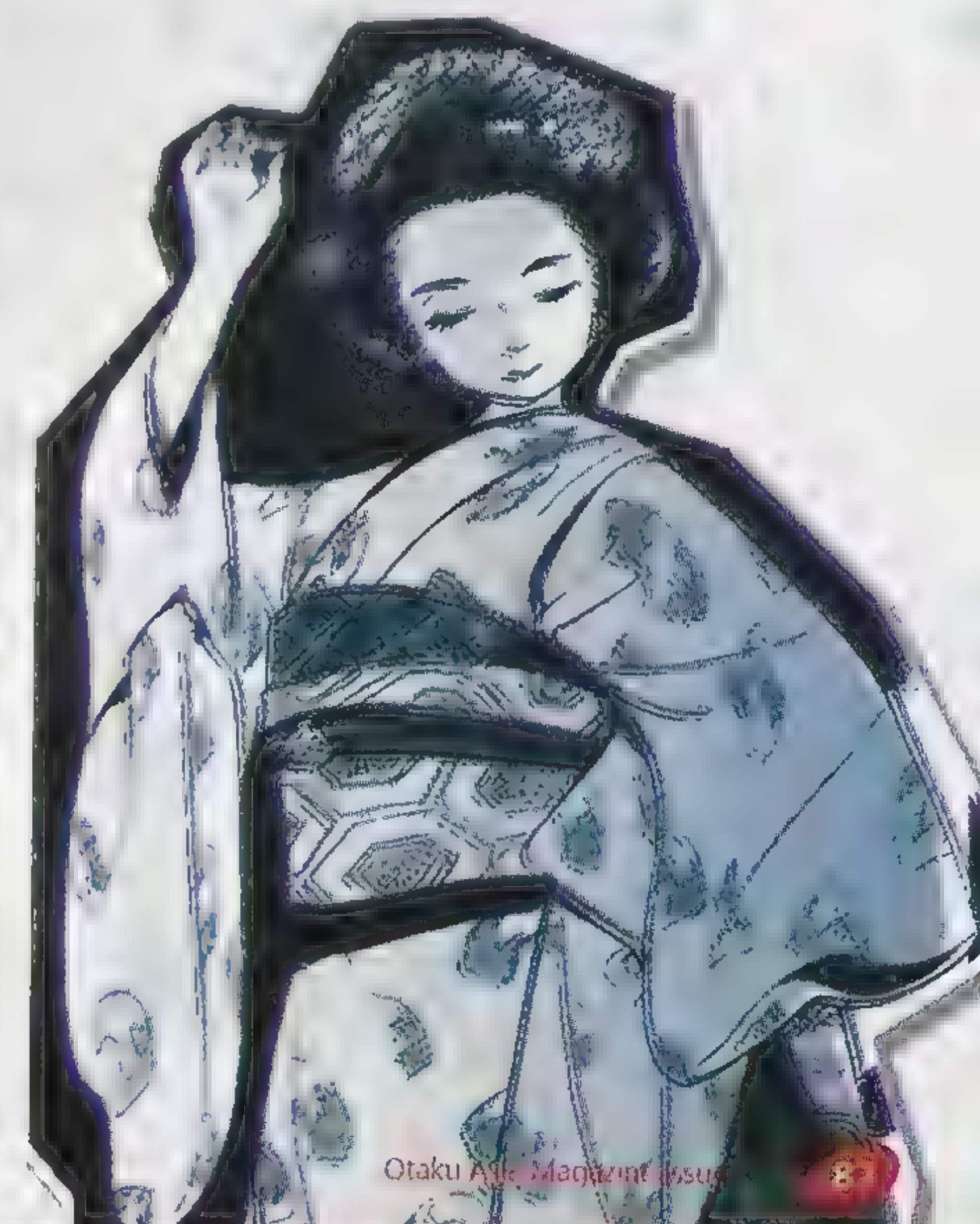
Failing is not to be afraid of, for it is something that will bring you somewhere else you are meant to be in.

Kiyo, a 16 year old girl, took her chance to live within Kyoto's famous geisha district in order to become a maiko, an apprentice traditional Japanese performer. She failed, however, to become one, and instead became the caterer for her troupe. It was not what she wanted at first, but right now she is happy for what she could do for her friends.

Written and illustrated by Koyama Aiko, *Maiko-san Chi no Makenai-san* (The caterer at the Maiko Manor) is an ongoing manga series with currently three full volumes since only this 2016. It is being published by Shogakukan in their *Shuukan Shounen Sunday* magazine.

This manga shows the everyday life of Kiyo as a caterer in the dorm of maikos in Kyoto. It takes special focus on her cooking recipes like oyakodon, toast, onigiri and many more. The mother of the house described Kiyo's cooking as 'normal yet makes everyone at ease', which made her really suitable for the job. It is always fun to read onto food manga for the visuals. It might make you hungry yourself, but definitely will make eating next time more appetizing.

Witness how Kiyo takes care of her friends' meals and probably learn a thing or two from her in cooking!





Doukyonin Wa Hiza, Tokidoki, Atama No Ue

article by: James

Cats make the perfect pets for introverts. They're self-reliant to a good degree, and they don't need much attention. And for writers, who are also usually introverts, cats also make a good source of inspiration, thanks to their cuteness and their unique quirks. If you can't understand how a cat can be a muse, maybe you will once you read *Doukyonin Wa Hiza, Tokidoki, Atama no Ue*.



Doukyonin Wa Hiza, Tokidoki, Atama no Ue is an adorable and heartwarming feline surprise. If you're a pet lover, this one's for the books.

That mouthful of a title is a perfect summary of the new life of mystery writer and recent cat owner Subaru Mikazuki. Ever since his childhood, he's always found the world to be a noisy, jarring place that disturbs the way he thinks. Thankfully, he found a cat. Or rather, a cat went to found him. After – and despite – being a bother to him, he let her stay, in his home and his life. But not before naming her: Haru. Now, Subaru and Haru are inseparable. And through Haru, Subaru becomes less isolated, and much, much happier than he was before.

The strength of this cute slice-of-pet-owner-life manga is perhaps its simplicity and relatability. Think of the manga as a manga-fied cat video with an overarching story and about an aloof guy, and a theme of overcoming isolation. It's sometimes cute, sometimes touching, and always simple and relatable. After all, it doesn't really take much to connect to its readers when it comes to pets, as it's something shared by a vast majority of people. And this simplicity, relatability, and refusal to be pretentious are its strengths.



GAKUEN BABYSITTERS

article by: James

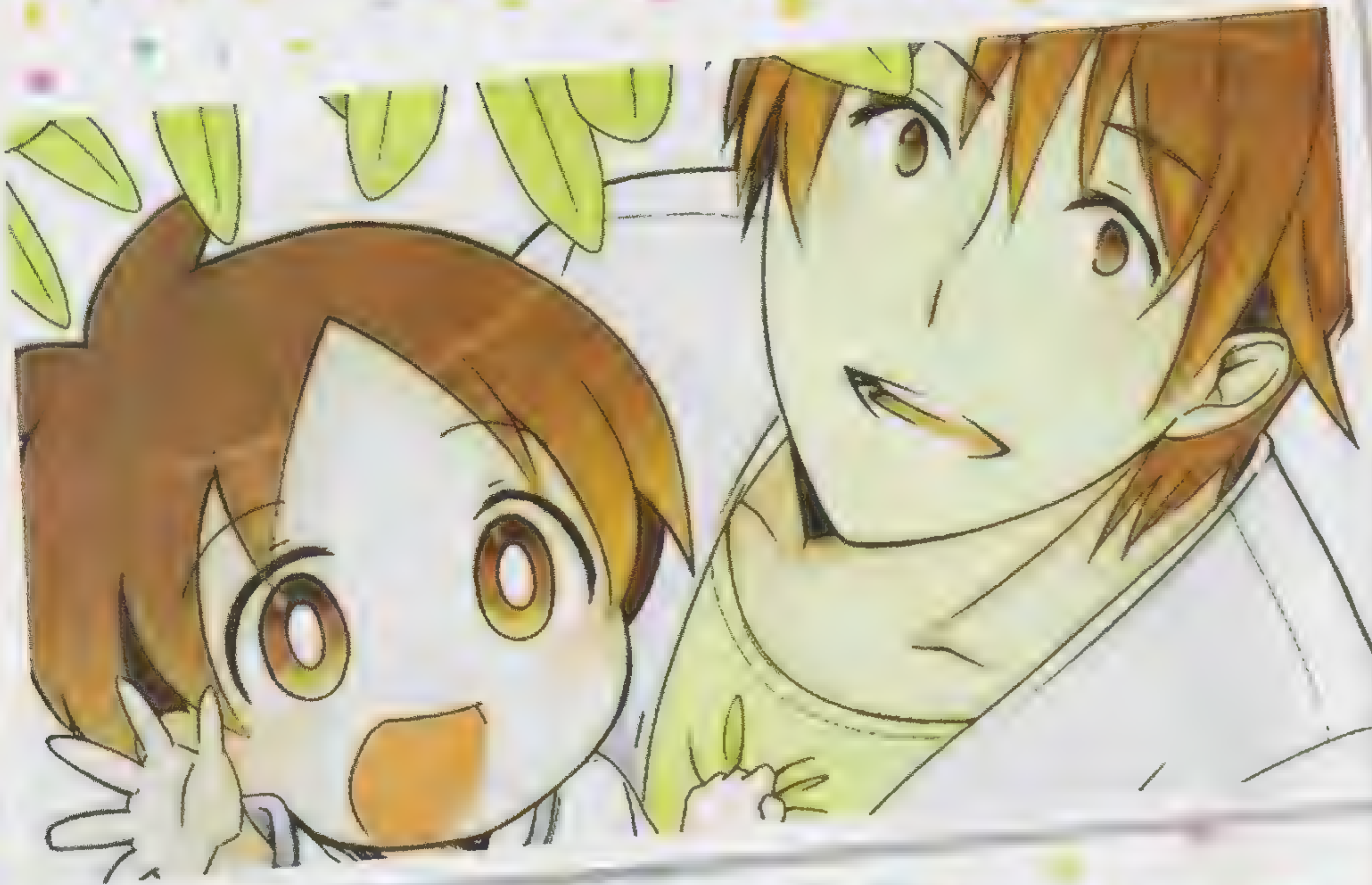
In today's day and age, professionals that can't entrust their little children to a family member or friend go to a daycare. Some institutions even have an in-house daycare! Here, toddlers can play with toys and their fellow toddlers in a safe and happy environment, as they're supervised by experts who know how to take care of little ones. So, does an orphaned boy who has taken it upon himself and only himself to take care of his little brother count as an expert? Definitely. Follow the new-found joy-filled life of the Kashima brothers in *Gakuen Babysitters*.

Ryuuichi Kashima, a teenage boy, and his toddler brother Kotarou were orphaned at a young age, as their parents died in a plane crash. There was no one who will take care of them, until the chairman of Morinomiya Academy, an elite school, took them in. However, they will not be living in a home. Instead, they will be living in school as the babysitters of the school staff's kids, as the chairman doesn't believe in free lunch.

It's a rather fair trade, as aside from the boys having a place to stay, they also make new friends. Kotarou finally has playmates, and Ryuuichi becomes friends with the two other daycare volunteers: the passive Yoshihito Usaida, and the cool Taka Kamitani. Together, the brothers go through the sadness of having no one else but themselves, and more importantly, the joys of having one another and a new family as well.

With cutesy art and a sad yet heartwarming premise, *Babysitter Gakuen* is a feel-good drama-comedy that will make you happy, sad, and of course, spazzing over manga-styled babies.





The Hyperactive Mabel Household

article by: lizac 3.0

Being a single parent is a difficult role. Take it from world history teacher Youichi Hisaka, whose wife is in a tour to God knows where. He only has one son named Shou, but he is equivalent to two lively children! Shou sometimes breaks microwaves, drills holes on the ceiling, and talks to strangers. At other times, Shou is well-behaved especially when he is out of the house. While You juggles between his job, parenting, and former gangster tendencies, Shou tries to enjoy his childhood as long as he can.

Father and Son (Chichi to Ko) is an on-going comedy, shounen manga written and illustrated by Uchiko in 2013. It has eight volumes published by Square Enix and serialized in magazines Gangan Online and Shounen Gangan. It is also published by Crunchyroll in English. After the end of every chapter, there are two four-panel chapters that show more of the hilarious interactions among characters.

Father and Son depicts Shou's normally wild adventures, (including taking the elevator and looking for a hen's egg) and You's journey as a single parent. You is not overly protective of his son, but he teaches him proper manners and behavior. Meanwhile, Shou loves to learn about the little things around him and is fond of playing with his classmates. The art is standard for a comedy manga, but it is noteworthy that the children are drawn cutely.

Read on and follow the rollercoaster relationship of You and Shou in Father and Son. Although the values in family and friendship are taught in this manga in a comedic way, all of us can learn some lessons from it.



TALK DIRTY TO ME?

article by: lizac 3.0

Sometimes when you have been with a person for too long, you adapt their mannerisms, gestures, and even the way they talk. Then you ask yourself, "What's happening to me?" It's normal, and such is the curious case of Shou Fujiwara who has somehow adapted his father's way of talking. His dad works as a host, but instead of flowery words, Shou spouts sadistic and abusive language!

So when he receives a confession from a pretty girl named Chiharu Ichinose, he talks rudely to her without meaning it. Surprisingly, Ichinose still likes Fujiwara. How can this boy ever change his ways when he's been like that for sixteen years?

S-suto na Fujiwara-kun (Sadist na Fujiwara-kun) is a four-panel shoujo comedy manga written and illustrated by Takamatsu Tsubasa in 2015. It is published by Media Factory and serialized in the magazine Comic Gene.

"Looks can be deceiving" is the proper maxim for this manga. Fujiwara appears to be a cool guy, having the same looks with that of shoujo love interests, until he opens his mouth. Despite that, it is admirable how determined Ichinose can get despite Fujiwara's major flaw. She just won't give up to be together with him. Likewise, Fujiwara is keen on changing himself for the better. He realizes he can't just keep covering his mouth when he has the urge to say something unnecessarily sadistic.

What will become of Fujiwara and his unusual behavior? Have a go at this manga and find out more about the teenager who just won't shut up talking dirty!





The Damsel Who Causes Distress

article by: lizac 3.0

Some people don't get a good sleep if they are not in their own house on their own bed. The result? Bad mood all day. Needless to say, it's a golden rule that you don't piss off a person who lacks some serious sleep. This has been Princess Suya Rhys' biggest problem ever since she was trapped in the Demon King's castle.

The Human Kingdom is in despair because their beloved Princess Suya Rhys has been kidnapped by the Demon King. People are worried for her safety, but all the princess cares about is how to make a softer pillow and how to get comfortable bed sheets. Now the princess would do anything, even kill innocent demons, to get a good night's sleep. Who could be the real villain here?

Maou-jou de Oyasumi is an on-going fantasy-comedy, shounen manga written and illustrated by Kagiji Kumanomata in 2016. It is published by Shogakukan and serialized in the

magazine *Shuukan Shounen Sunday*. Princess Suya Rhys is not your typical tormented princess. In fact, she could accept the situation if only she could get a good night's sleep. It is truly amazing how the princess could come up with creative ways to find items necessary for her to sleep well. Anyone could learn practical tips from her resourcefulness in sewing. You'll almost feel sorry for the demons because the princess often takes advantage of their naivety and kindness. Meanwhile, the art is perfectly suitable for the fantasy genre. The demons particularly are drawn with intricate detail.

Maou-jou de Oyasumi is no fairytale, and the princess needs no saving. The hero might as well head back home! Read this manga and have a good laugh before you go to sleep.



LIVING TOGETHER WITH SENSEI

article by: lizac 3.0

Kiichi is a normal high school student, and Anjou-sensei is a normal high school teacher, but them living together with one slowly developing feelings for the other? Smells like trouble! In school, Anjou-sensei seems strict, but at home, she would not mind wearing skimpy clothes in front of the poor boy and thinks it is not different from how siblings are. Kiichi, his heart beating fast, thinks otherwise.

How did the student and teacher get into this co-habiting situation?

Koi to Utatane is an on-going shounen, slice of life manga written by Chinori Torio in 2016. It is published by Kadokawa and serialized in the magazine *Comic Dengeki Daioh*. It has one volume so far with two chapters translated on the web. The shounen genre might be confusing because of the shoujo-esque art of this manga, but the story is clearly focused on Kiichi, his interactions with his teacher, and his feelings.

Anjou-sensei throughout the chapters is shown to be teaching Kiichi some ways to improve his sleeping habits and his health in general. As readers, we can also learn a lot from her techniques to sleep well. Expect nothing less from a teacher!

The slow release of the manga could be such a cliff-hanger for those who are waiting for the next chapters, but the wait is worth it because the circumstances are exciting. Has Kiichi really fallen in love with his teacher, Anjou-sensei? Let us all read (and wait) together to find out.





MOVIE REEL

by Ann

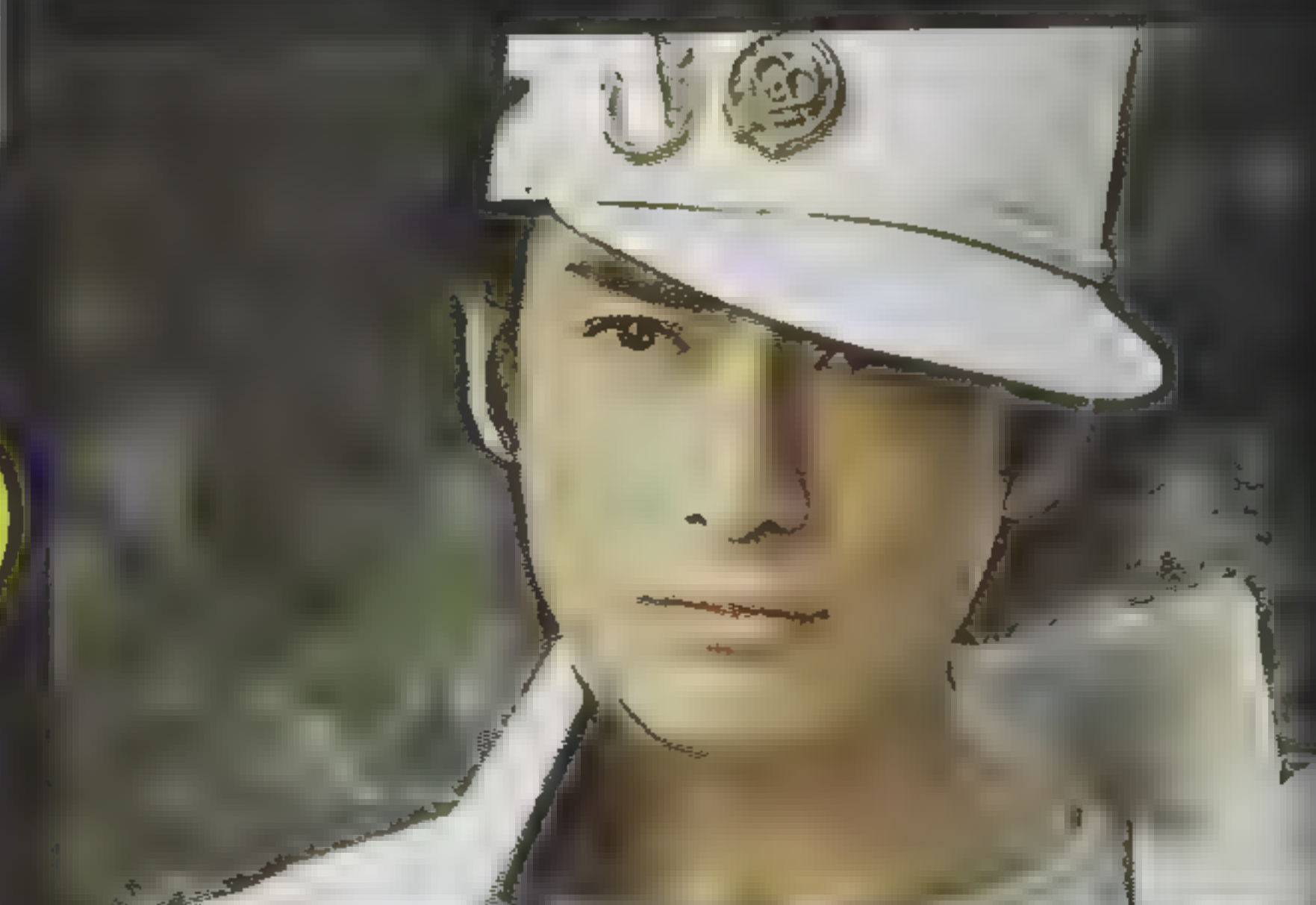


NOT THE LAST STAND

*Jojo's Bizarre Adventure
Diamond is Unbreakable Chapter I*

Comment on anything but don't ever, ever insult his hair! Even though Josuke Higashikata is a respectful person who prefers to get along with everybody, anyone can easily get on his bad side when he's offended by a comment on his hairdo, and by bad side, we mean that he can use his powers to get even! While Josuke has that tendency, he has the heart and the ability to repair things. Above all that, he has a great love for his family and his town, Miorih. So, when he hears that there's a threat to them, he gets fired up to defeat that evil.

Jojo's Bizarre Adventure finally gets the live-action movie it deserves, and the one assigned to the daunting task of adapting the legendary series is director Takashi Miike. Jojo's Bizarre Adventure Diamond is Unbreakable Chapter I is based on the fourth story arc from the original supernatural action manga created by Hirohiko Araki in 1987. Its counterpart TV animé adaptation in April last year was the latest release in the franchise and this arc is the one that uses Japanese setting and Japanese characters unlike the previous arcs which mostly used Western settings. Still, most of the scenes of the film was actually filmed in Sitges, Spain, in addition to some shots in Japan, to create the landscape for the fictional town of Miorih.



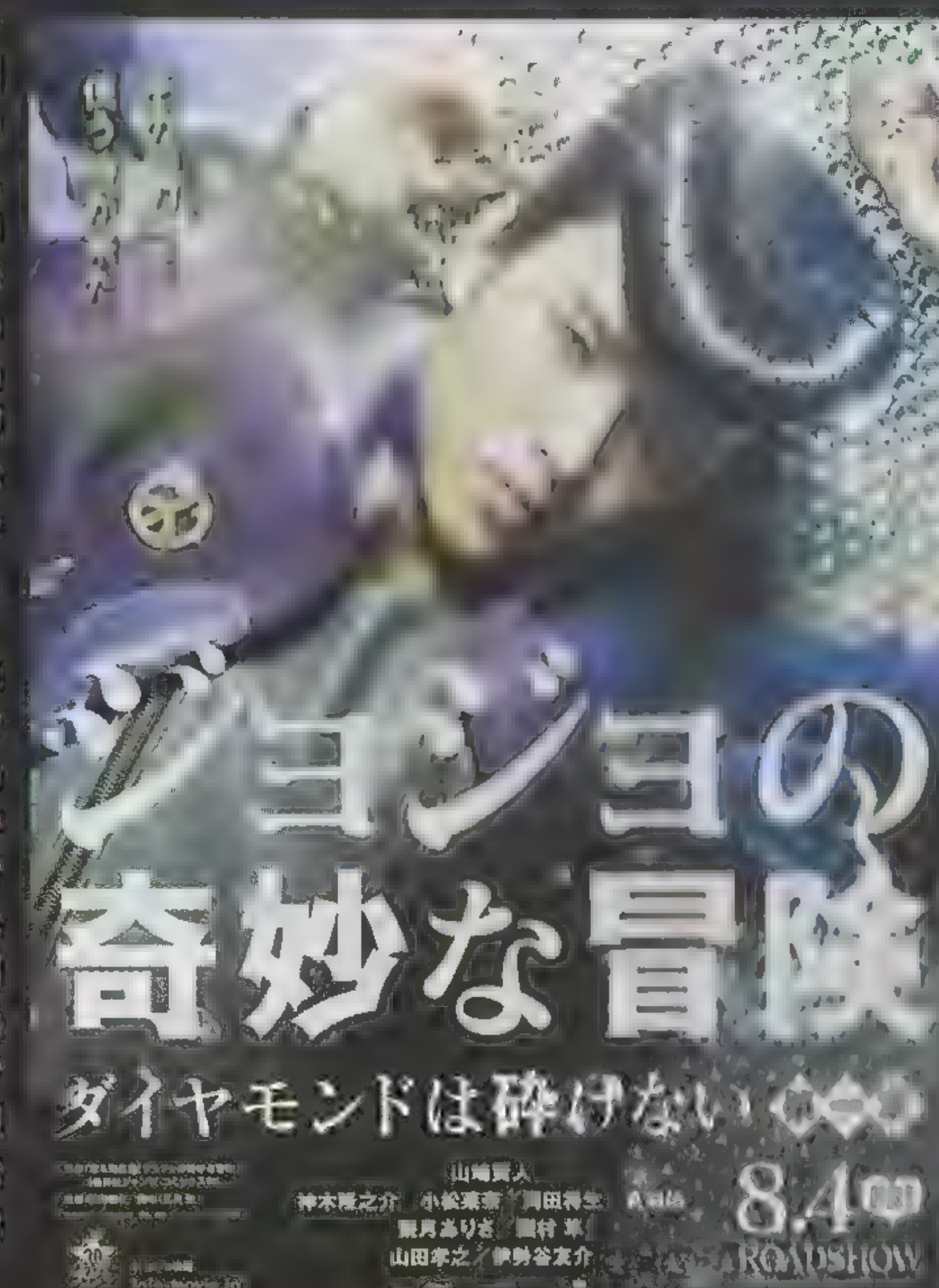
Toho and Warner Bros. collaborated for the film's production with the following lead cast members: Kento Yamazaki as Josuke Higashikata, Yusuke Iseya as Jotaro Kujo, Munosuke Kamiki as Koichi Hirose, Nana Komatsu as Yukako Yamagishi, Mackenyu as Okuyasu Nijimura, Masaki Okada as Keicho Nijimura, and Takayuki Yamada as Anjuro Katagiri/Angelo. Viewers in Japan witnessed the film in action on August 4 but continues with a worldwide distribution, with a release in Philippine cinemas last September.

Another advantage of the live-action adaptation beginning with the fourth story arc is the viewers getting an introduction to the world of Jojo's Bizarre Adventure. The long-standing series focuses on the Joestar family, and the fourth arc focuses on Josuke's generation. Josuke's power to attack and restore things to their original form is his "Stand" which he inherited from his Joestar bloodline. When Jotaro Kujo arrives and introduces himself as Josuke's nephew, it's revealed that Jotaro also has a "Stand" with a different set of abilities.

He tells Josuke that someone in Miorih has gotten his hands on the Bow and Arrow that can either kill or produce a Stand from a normal person. Using the point of view of Koichi Hirose, a transfer student, viewers gradually learn how Stand works as he transitions from a non-Stand user to a Stand-user.

Fans of the franchise immediately recognize the iconic hairstyles of the characters, which the production did its best to replicate. In addition to that is the faithfulness of the movie to the storyline with minimal alterations. But one of the appeals of the live-action is the special effects that seem like popping candy to the eyes, with so much life brought forth to the Stands, satisfying the thirst for action as expected from the original work.

Since this is just Chapter I of Diamond is Unbreakable, it definitely set the bar high for a sequel as well as the live-action adaptations of the other story arcs. It's not an easy task to create a primer for Jojo's Bizarre Adventure, but expect to see more and get hooked. This is nowhere near a last stand!





GAMER'S ARENA

by Kahlua



DOTA 2: TWO NEW HEROES WAITING IN THE DUELING FATES UPDATE



Last year's The International 2016 (TI6), Dota 2 fans were surprised by Valve for announcing the release of Monkey King as a new hero in the game. This year also, at the stage of The International 2017 (TI7), gamers are doubly hyped up for the announcement of not one, but two new heroes to be released anytime soon.

Accompanied by an orchestra, a teaser video was grandly shown to give a sneak peak of the two heroes named Sylph and Pangolin, as later on leaked by Valve (unofficial though and has a chance of being changed). Based on last year's Monkey King teaser, it is safe to assume that the one-minute videos already show all the skills and abilities of the new heroes. Though an official written list is yet to be announced, their skills can be roughly described through it.

First hero, **Pangolin**, is a mix of armadillo, cat and/or fox wielding a sword greatly reminding people of Zorro (sometimes Puss in Boots). Swift with his

moves, he is most likely to be highly mobile and has the ability to disarm opponents which can counter skills like Bristleback's Quill Spray. He could also throw his sword to stab an opponent from a range and curl up into a ball, rolling around to initiate or escape.

With more screen time in the teaser, this hero mentioned how a wise man mentioned what a hero truly needs: speed, strength and wisdom. These happened to be the three main attributes in Dota 2, and do you know what he said to be the actual most important attribute a hero could have? Style. Ha! Let's look forward how chic this hero could be in the most awaited update!

Sylph, the second hero, was rumored to be the fourth spirit (the other three being Storm, Ember and Earth) since Sylph, as mentioned in literature books, is a mythological spirit of the air. Sylph is a ranged hero and unlike the first one, its skills were already named through an unreleased content (usually confirmed by a client or leaked by Valve) with also the corresponding audio for each plus of Sylph's movement and attacks. Its skills are named Grapple, Shadow Realm, Flash Powder, and WillOWisp. We do not have yet a good visual representation of these abilities since she was only shown for not more than 15 seconds on the video.

The two much-awaited new heroes are said to debut in the Dueling Fates update which may come this coming end of fall (December).

BLACK BLADES AND SILVER WINGS

by Reikisha

ACCEL WORLD VS SWORD ART ONLINE

Kirito, Asuna, and Yui spent their days in peace in the VRMMO "ALfheim Online" as a happy family. But then, the ALO admin team announced that they will carry out an urgent maintenance to resolve an unspecified anomaly in-game. Kirito noticed that Yui was acting strange after hearing the announcement, so he convinced Asuna not to log out and follow where she's going. While chasing after Yui, they were attacked by a mysterious machine life-form dyed in black.

"I am the Black King, Black Lotus!" the machine life-form said.

As the Black Swordsman and World End continue to cross blades with each other, the mysterious NPC called Persona Vabel has successfully trapped Yui inside the tower in Niebelheim. Following her entrapment, most of Brain Burst's data have merged with ALO's, and more robot-like avatars like Black Lotus roam around the Svart Alfheim area.

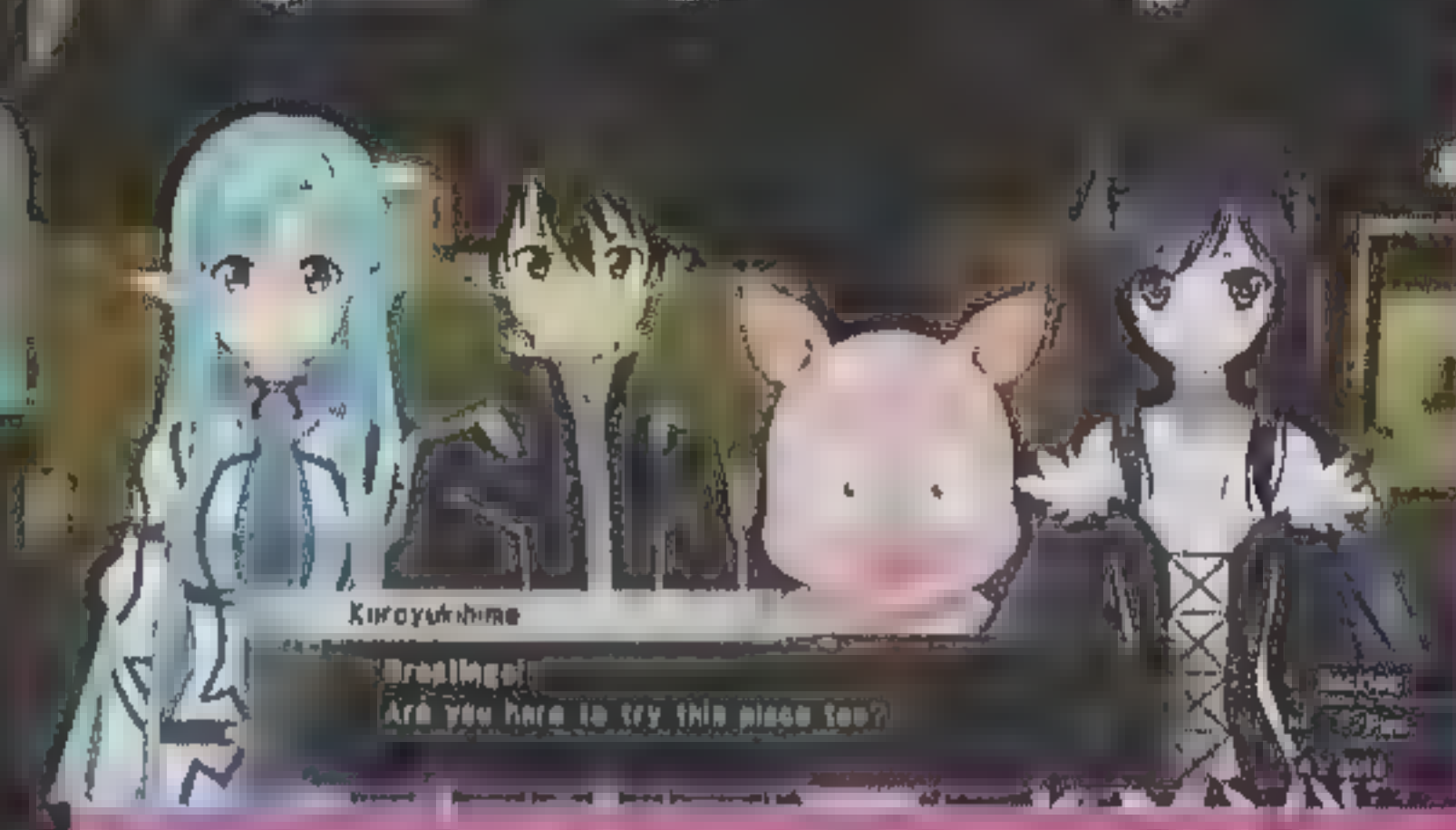
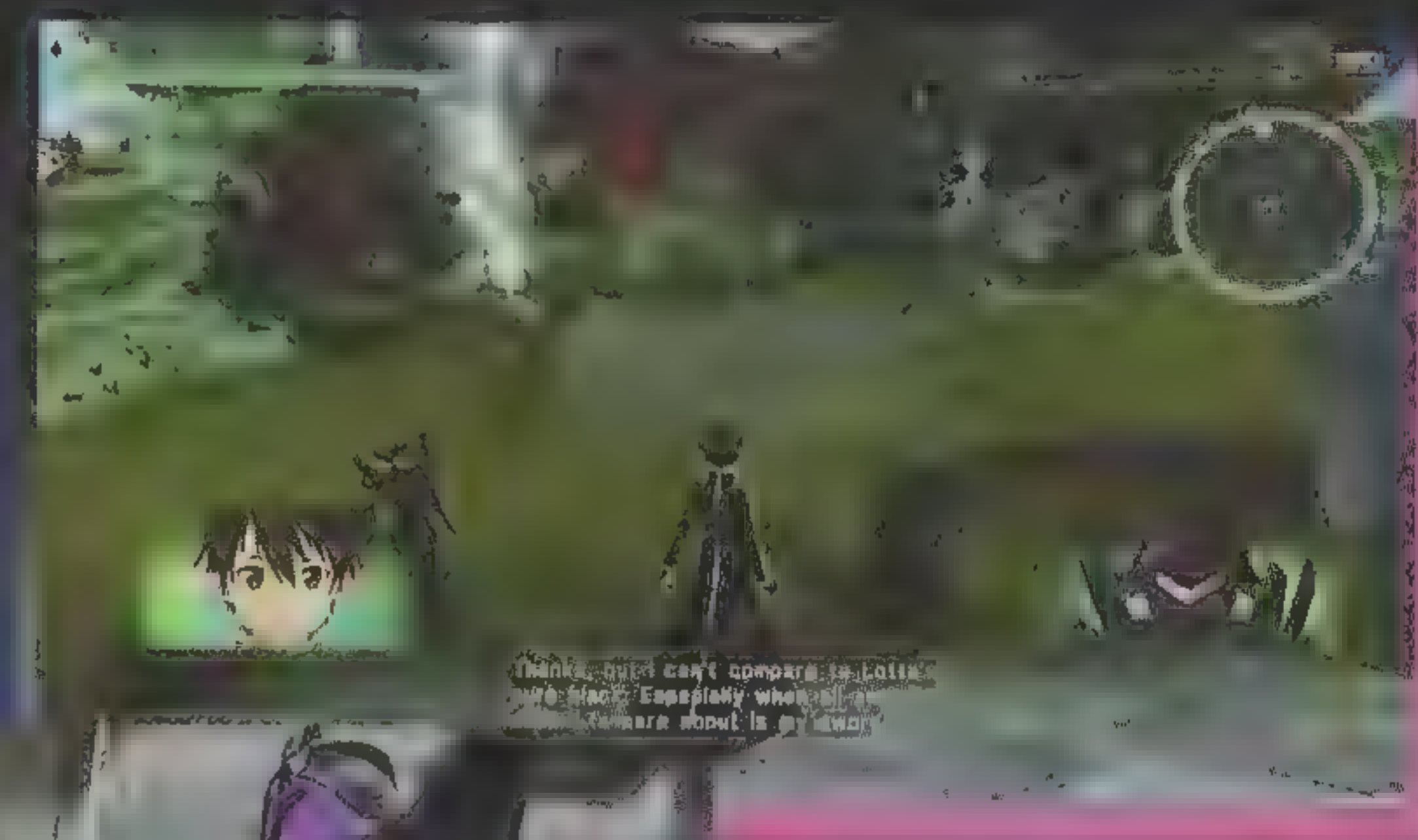


Accel World VS Sword Art Online: Millennium Twilight

is an action RPG published by Bandai Namco Games for the PlayStation Vita, PlayStation 4, and PC via Steam. The game was first released in Japan on March 16, 2017, followed by Southeast Asia, North America, and Europe four months later.

GAMEPLAY

Millennium Twilight retains the core game play mechanics from Sword Art Online: Lost Song, but it also comes with new features that only Accel World characters can use. All playable Burst Linkers aside from Silver Crow and Sky Raker can only use their high jump and accel step to compensate for their inability to fly.



REVIEW

Millennium Twilight feels more like a sequel to Lost Song rather than an actual crossover game with Accel World. The main story focuses on the SAO characters 80% of the time, and the game expects you to know a lot about the AW lore since the Burst Linkers that was introduced after the Dusk Taker arc will only get a brief introduction in the main story. Despite their inability to fly, these Burst Linkers can also participate in aerial battles thanks to their spamable high jump and accel step. However, since these characters are originally fighting game avatars, some of their special moves are ineffective against tougher airborne enemies.

Unfortunately, this game also has the same problem with Lost Song regarding exploration. The extermination quests in-game gradually becomes a chore to clear as the map doesn't show the possible spawn points of the quest-related monsters. Sometimes, you have to guess where to go next in order to proceed in the main story because there's no objective marker displayed on the map.

Millennium Twilight is a much more enjoyable game than Lost Song not only because of the inclusion of Accel World characters, but also because of the side stories that shows Kirito's party socializing with Nega Nebulus. And if you've read the Versus side-story from a few years ago, this game will give you a few opportunities to witness who would win in a duel between Kirito and Silver Crow!

SCAVANGE. SLAUGHTER. SURVIVE!

by Reikisha

There are many multiplayer shooter games in the video gaming market recently that are being released as team-based shooters. *Paladins* and *Overwatch* are by far the best ones from this genre due to their huge player base and polished gameplay mechanics. *Battleborn*, on the other hand, has died prematurely as a result of poor marketing and unintentionally competing against the overwhelming hype *Overwatch* had at the time.

Any future multiplayer game from this genre will have a hard time attracting new players if the developers can't provide something that will differentiate their game from the already established ones. So instead of trying to compete against the top dogs of hero-based shooters, they should come up with a new shooter game genre. And that's exactly what Brendan Greene did with *PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds*!

PLAYERUNKNOWN'S BATTLEGROUNDS

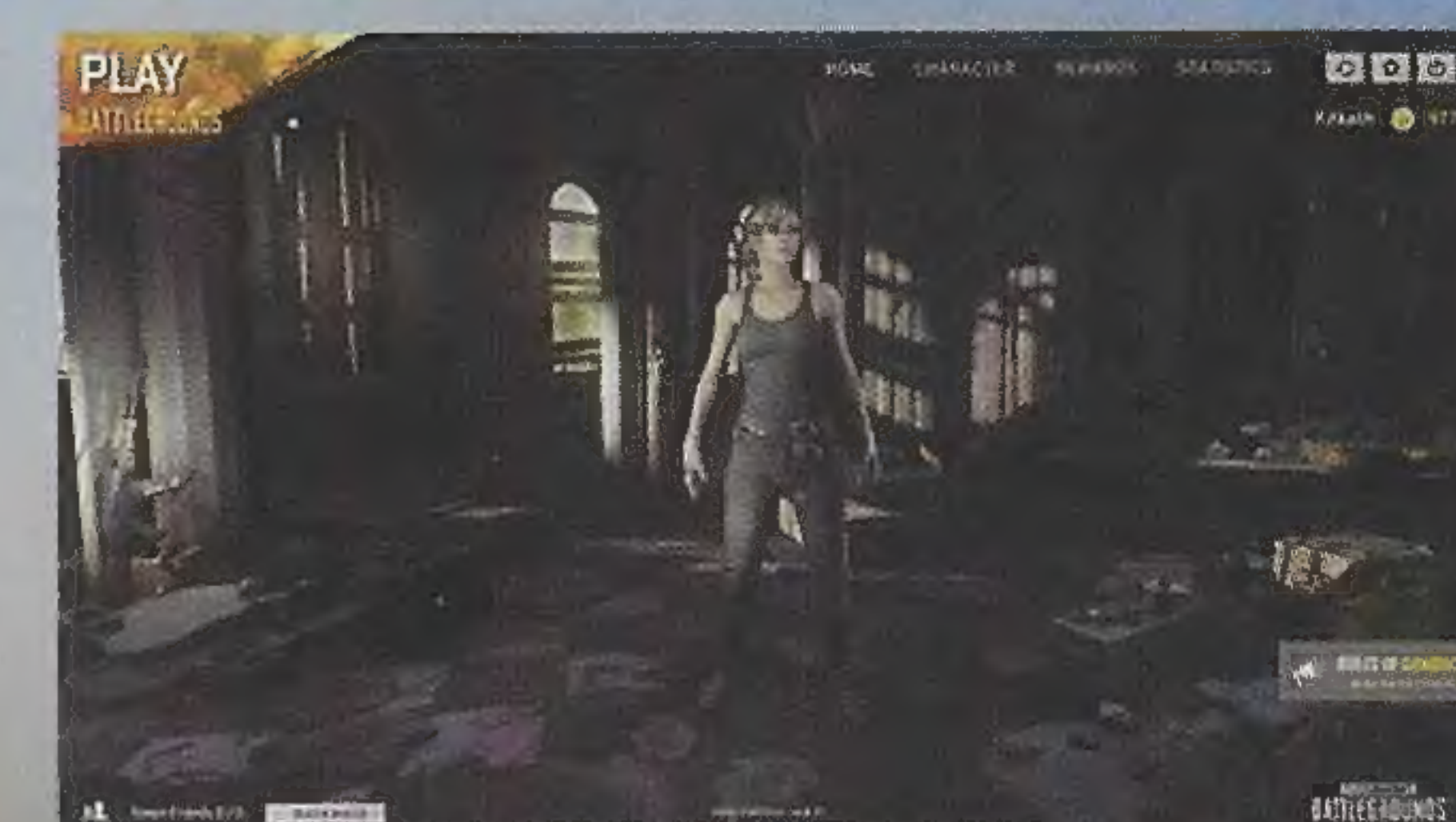


PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds (PUBG) is an online battle royale game developed and published by Bluehole. The game is based on previous mods made by Brendan "PlayerUnknown" Greene for *Arma 2* and *H1Z1* and the 2000 Japanese film *Battle Royale*. The game is on Steam's early access program since March 2017.

GAMEPLAY

One hundred players will have to fight against each other inside a map area approximately 8x8 kilometers in size that eventually shrinks down every few minutes. Players can enter the match solo, or with a small team of up to four people. Each match starts with the players choosing a drop off area that contain loots that can either make or break them for the rest of the game. The plane's flight path, bombardment zones, play area, crate drops, and loot spawns are randomized to ensure that the players won't have the same experience as their last session.

PUBG can be played from either the first-person or third-person perspective.



REVIEW

PUBG is a shooter game that looks simple at first glance due to its low learning curve, but it's actually very complex. The concept of scavenging for guns, equipment, and healing items faster than anyone else makes PUBG both fun and fair at the same time. Beginners and experienced players are on equal footing during the first few minutes of the match until someone finds a shotgun and shoots everyone in the face. Depending on how good your survival skills are in-game, you may end up dying before knowing what killed you or stay alive until the play area becomes very small.

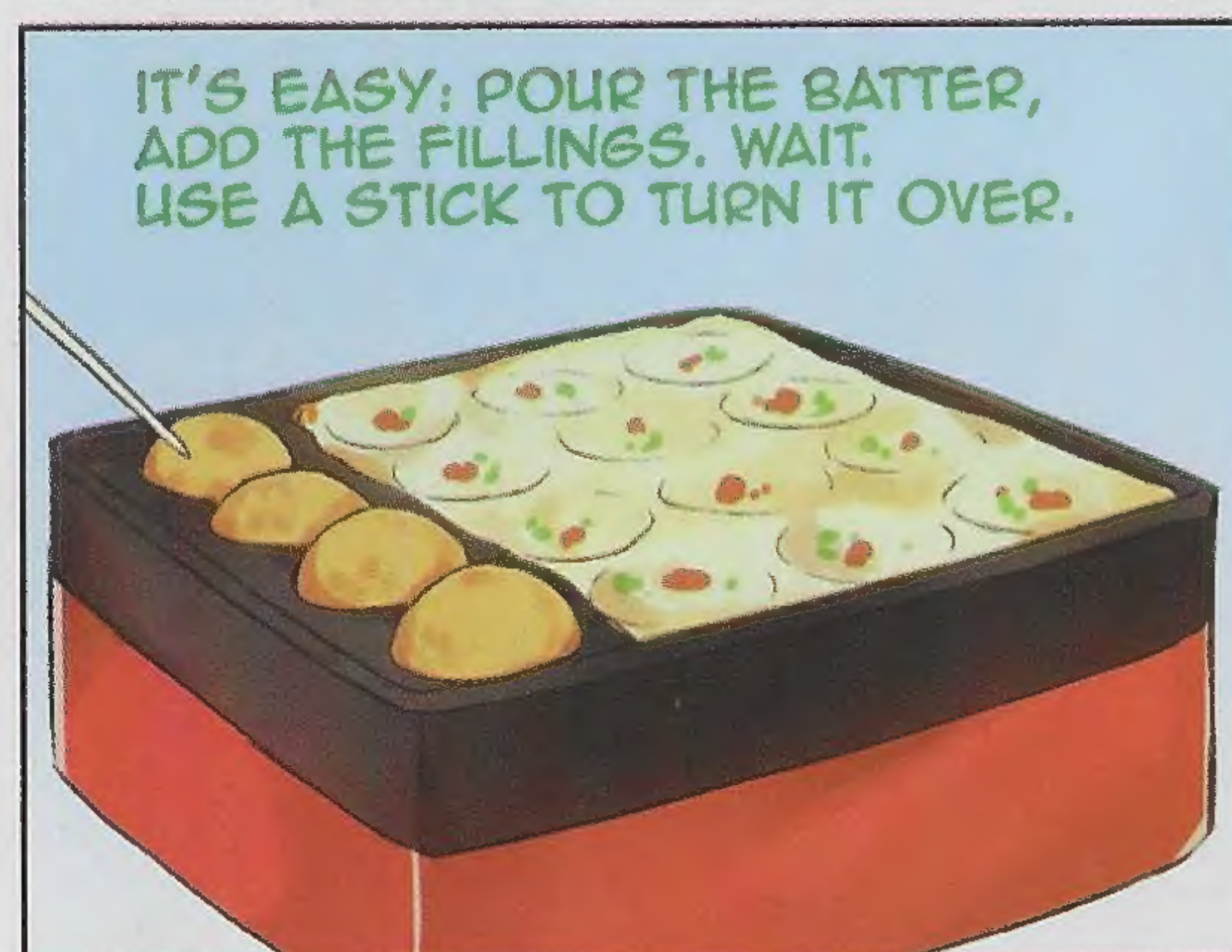
This game is one of the early access games on Steam that gets even better every update. PUBG's most recent update includes: foggy weather effect, a new town, and the mini-14 semi-automatic marksman rifle.

Even though the game is still in early access, it's hard not to recommend PUBG to anyone who's looking for an extremely enjoyable game for a cheap price. If you're a Twitch streamer, then you should definitely add this game to your Steam library. PUBG is so hot right now that your channel's view count will skyrocket just by playing it while streaming!



O-KUN TALES

TAKOYAKI TALES



THAT LOOKS SO GOOD!

LOOK, THE BONITO FLAKES ARE DANCING!



IN JUST 3 MINUTES

EEEEH?? IT'S ALL GONE?!!

XANDER!!

LET'S JUST MAKE SOME MORE



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#THROWBACK

article by: YaniYano



WHITE ALBUM 2

ホワイトアルバム

Disbandment is one of the sad things to happen in your life. Even if you really love what you do, there are still times that it will come to an end.

Haruki Kitahara, a former member of the light music club plays his guitar after school in preparation for their school Festival. As he plays, a voice was heard and harmonizes greatly with his guitar. From there, the light music club has been reformed once again. From being a single member, it grew up to 3 members.

White Album 2 is a PC Game for Windows developed and published by Leaf in the year 2010. An anime adaptation was released in the year 2013 directed by Masaomi Ando and written by Fumiaki Maruto. The anime has a total of 13 Episodes.

Love is everywhere. Even if this is a band themed anime, there's also a romance within it revolving around the three protagonists of the show. As others say, love is messy and we will be seeing it here in the anime so its jam packed with romance, drama and slice of life.

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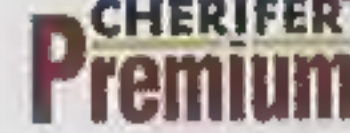
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